

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1336

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

June 26, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 26, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

S.B. NO. 694, H.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO THE DETENTION OF MINORS.
ACT 234

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DETENTION OF MINORS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 571-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By amending subsections (d) and (e) to read:

4 "(d) No minor shall be held in a detention facility for
5 juveniles or shelter longer than twenty-four hours, excluding
6 weekends and holidays, unless a petition or motion for
7 revocation of probation[7] or motion for revocation of
8 protective supervision has been filed, or unless the judge
9 orders otherwise after a court hearing. No ex parte motions
10 shall be considered. ~~[For the purposes of this section:~~

11 ~~(1) Unless a court finds, after a hearing and in writing,~~
12 ~~that it is in the interest of justice as provided for~~
13 ~~in subsection (g) (2), a minor believed to come within~~
14 ~~section 571-11(1), or a minor awaiting trial or~~
15 ~~another legal process, who is treated as an adult for~~
16 ~~purposes of prosecution in criminal court and housed~~
17 ~~in a secure facility shall not:~~



1 ~~(A) Have sight or sound contact with adult inmates;~~

2 of

3 ~~(B) Be held in any jail or lockup for adults,~~

4 ~~except as provided in subsection (g) (3); and~~

5 ~~(2) Detention in a jail or lockup for adults may be~~

6 ~~permitted for:~~

7 ~~(A) A minor accused of a non status offense who is~~

8 ~~held for a period not to exceed six hours;~~

9 ~~provided that the minor is being held:~~

10 ~~(i) For processing or release,~~

11 ~~(ii) While awaiting transfer to a juvenile~~

12 ~~facility; or~~

13 ~~(iii) For a court appearance that occurs within~~

14 ~~the period of detention; or~~

15 ~~(B) A minor accused of a non status offense who is~~

16 ~~awaiting an initial court appearance that will~~

17 ~~occur within forty eight hours of the minor being~~

18 ~~taken into custody, excluding weekends and~~

19 ~~holidays, and where the jail or lockup for adults~~

20 ~~is in a location.~~



~~(i) Outside a metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and no acceptable alternative placement is available;~~

~~(ii) Where the distance to be traveled or the lack of highway, road, or transportation does not allow for court appearances within forty eight hours, excluding weekends and holidays, such that a brief delay of no more than an additional forty eight hours is excusable; or~~

~~(iii) Where safety concerns exist, such as severe and life threatening weather conditions that do not allow for reasonably safe travel, in which case the time for an appearance may be delayed until twenty four hours after the time that conditions allow for reasonably safe travel;~~

~~provided that the minor shall not have sight or sound contact with adult inmates; provided further that the State shall have a policy in effect that requires~~



1 ~~individuals who work with both minor and adult inmates~~
2 ~~in collocated facilities to be trained and certified~~
3 ~~to work with juveniles.]~~

4 (e) No minor [may] shall be held after the filing of a
5 petition or motion, as specified in subsection (d), unless an
6 order for continued detention or shelter has been made by a
7 judge after a court hearing. If there is probable cause to
8 believe that the minor comes within section 571-11(1), the minor
9 may be securely detained, following a court hearing, in a
10 detention facility for juveniles or may be held in a shelter.
11 If there is probable cause to believe that the minor comes
12 within section 281-101.5 or 571-11(2), the minor may be held,
13 following a court hearing, in a shelter but shall not be
14 securely detained in a detention facility for juveniles for
15 longer than twenty-four hours, excluding weekends and holidays,
16 unless the minor is subject to the provisions of chapter 582,
17 Interstate Compact on Juveniles, or chapter 582D, Interstate
18 Compact for Juveniles, or is allegedly in or has already been
19 adjudicated for a violation of a valid court order, as provided
20 under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
21 Act of 1974, as amended."



1 2. By amending subsections (g) through (i) to read:

2 "(g) When a minor is ordered to be held or detained by the
3 court[+]

4 ~~(1) Where a minor transferred for criminal proceedings~~
5 ~~pursuant to a waiver of family court jurisdiction is~~
6 ~~detained, the minor shall not:~~

7 ~~(A) Have sight or sound contact with adult inmates,~~
8 ~~or~~

9 ~~(B) Be held in any jail or lockup for adults,~~
10 ~~unless a court finds, after a hearing and in writing,~~
11 ~~that it is in the interest of justice,~~

12 ~~(2) In determining whether it is in the interest of~~
13 ~~justice to permit a minor to be held in any jail or~~
14 ~~lockup for adults, or to have sight or sound contact~~
15 ~~with adult inmates, a court shall consider:~~

16 ~~(A) The age of the minor,~~

17 ~~(B) The physical and mental maturity of the minor,~~

18 ~~(C) The present mental state of the minor, including~~
19 ~~whether the minor presents an imminent risk of~~
20 ~~self-harm,~~



- 1 ~~(D) The nature and circumstances of the alleged~~
2 ~~offense;~~
- 3 ~~(E) The minor's history of prior delinquent acts;~~
- 4 ~~(F) The relative ability of the available adult and~~
5 ~~juvenile detention facilities to meet the~~
6 ~~specific needs of the minor and protect the~~
7 ~~safety of the public as well as other detained~~
8 ~~minors; and~~
- 9 ~~(G) Any other relevant factor; and~~
- 10 ~~(3) If a court determines that it is in the interest of~~
11 ~~justice to permit a minor to be held in any jail or~~
12 ~~lockup for adults, or to have sight or sound contact~~
13 ~~with adult inmates;~~
- 14 ~~(A) The court shall hold a hearing no less frequently~~
15 ~~than once every thirty days, or in the case of a~~
16 ~~rural jurisdiction, no less frequently than once~~
17 ~~every forty five days, to review whether it~~
18 ~~remains in the interest of justice to permit the~~
19 ~~minor to be held in a jail or lockup for adults~~
20 ~~or to have sight or sound contact with adult~~
21 ~~inmates; and~~



1 ~~(B) The minor shall not be held in any jail or lockup~~
2 ~~for adults, or permitted to have sight or sound~~
3 ~~contact with adult inmates, for more than one~~
4 ~~hundred eighty days, unless the court, in~~
5 ~~writing, determines there is good cause for an~~
6 ~~extension, or the minor expressly waives this~~
7 ~~limitation.]~~

8 , the minor shall not be held in any jail, lockup, or prison for
9 adults.

10 (h) A minor may be placed in room confinement in a
11 juvenile detention [~~or adult jail~~] facility only under the
12 following conditions:

13 (1) Room confinement may only be used as a temporary
14 response to a minor's behavior, and only if:

15 (A) The behavior poses an immediate and substantial
16 risk of danger to the minor's self or another
17 individual, or a serious and immediate threat to
18 the safety and orderly operation of the facility;
19 provided that any decision to hold a minor in
20 room confinement due to a mental health emergency
21 shall be made by a mental health professional and



1 based upon the mental health professional's
2 examination of the minor; or

3 (B) The minor is an imminent escape risk;

4 (2) Because of the potential impact on a minor's mental or
5 physical health, room confinement may only be used for
6 the minimum time necessary for the minor to regain
7 self-control, and only after less restrictive options
8 or techniques, including de-escalation, conflict and
9 behavioral management techniques, and intervention by
10 a mental health professional, have been attempted,
11 exhausted, and failed;

12 (3) If a minor is placed in room confinement, the reasons
13 for the room confinement shall be explained to the
14 minor. The minor shall also be informed that release
15 from room confinement will occur immediately when the
16 minor exhibits self-control and is no longer deemed a
17 threat to the minor's safety or the safety of others;

18 (4) If a minor is placed in room confinement, the
19 following individuals shall be notified on the next
20 business day and provided the reasons for the room



1 confinement as well as the location and duration of
2 the confinement:

3 (A) The senior judge of the family court;

4 (B) The presiding judge who ordered the minor to be
5 held at the facility;

6 (C) The deputy chief court administrator; and

7 (D) The social services manager of the juvenile
8 client services branch for the circuit court of
9 the first circuit;

10 (5) Room confinement shall not be used for purposes of
11 punishment or disciplinary sanction, coercion,
12 convenience, or retaliation, or to address staffing
13 shortages at the facility;

14 (6) A minor may be held in room confinement for no more
15 than three hours unless the minor is a danger to
16 themselves or another, or the on-call judge grants an
17 extension of no more than three additional hours of
18 confinement. Thereafter, the minor shall be returned
19 to the general population; provided that if a minor is
20 held in room confinement for more than three hours, a
21 hearing shall be held before the family court on the



1 next business day, at which time the minor shall be
2 provided legal representation;

3 (7) A minor shall not be returned to room confinement
4 immediately after returning to the general population
5 from room confinement for the purposes of evading the
6 reporting requirements and room confinement
7 restrictions pursuant to this section;

8 (8) If the minor is not returned to the general population
9 following a hearing pursuant to paragraph (6), the
10 minor shall be transferred to a location where
11 services may be provided to the minor without the need
12 for room confinement; provided that if a mental health
13 professional determines that the level of crisis
14 service needed is not presently available at the
15 location, the superintendent or deputy superintendent
16 of the facility shall initiate a referral to a
17 facility that can meet the needs of the minor;

18 (9) All rooms used for room confinement shall have
19 adequate and operational lighting, ventilation for the
20 comfort of the minor, and shall be clean and resistant
21 to suicide and self-harm;



- 1 (10) The minor shall have access to drinking water, toilet
2 facilities, hygiene supplies, and reading materials
3 approved by a mental health professional;
- 4 (11) The minor shall have the same access as provided to
5 minors in the general population of the facility to
6 meals, contact with parents or legal guardians, legal
7 assistance, educational programs, and medical and
8 mental health services;
- 9 (12) The minor shall be continuously monitored by facility
10 staff; and
- 11 (13) The judiciary shall post quarterly on the judiciary's
12 website a report of its detention center detailing
13 their compliance with this section. Each report shall
14 include:
- 15 (A) The number of incidents of room confinement every
16 year;
- 17 (B) The number of minors impacted;
- 18 (C) The age, gender identity, and race of minors
19 impacted;
- 20 (D) Any alternative strategies employed before the
21 use of room confinement, the reasons those



1 alternative strategies failed, and why room
2 confinement was necessary; and

3 (E) The incidence of mental illness.

4 For the purposes of this subsection:

5 "Mental health professional" means a qualified mental
6 health professional or mental health professional supervised by
7 a qualified mental health professional.

8 "Room confinement" means the placement of a minor in a
9 room, cell, or area with minimal or no contact with persons
10 other than court staff and attorneys. "Room confinement" does
11 not include confinement of a minor in a single-person room or
12 cell for brief periods of locked room time as necessary for
13 required institutional operations and does not include
14 confinement during sleep hours.

15 (i) Provisions regarding bail shall not be applicable to
16 minors detained in accordance with this chapter~~[, except]~~;
17 provided that bail may be allowed after a minor has been
18 transferred for criminal prosecution pursuant to waiver of
19 family court jurisdiction."

20 3. By amending subsections (k) and (l) to read:



1 "(k) Any other provision of law to the contrary
2 notwithstanding, any person otherwise subject to proceedings
3 under chapter 832 and who is under the age of eighteen may be
4 confined in a juvenile detention facility [~~or correctional~~
5 ~~facility~~] by order of a judge for the purposes set forth in
6 section 832-12, 832-15, or 832-17.

7 (1) A minor may temporarily be held for processing or
8 while in transit to court in an adult jail or lockup in a county
9 that does not have a juvenile detention facility if the minor
10 is:

11 (1) Separated by sight and sound from adult inmates; and

12 (2) Held no longer than is necessary to be transported to
13 court or the nearest juvenile detention facility.

14 The department of human services through the office of
15 youth services shall certify police station cellblocks and
16 community correctional centers that provide sight and sound
17 separation between minors and adults in temporary secure
18 custody[~~-~~] pursuant to this subsection. Only cellblocks and
19 centers certified under this subsection shall be authorized to
20 [~~detain~~] temporarily hold juveniles pursuant to [~~section 571-~~
21 ~~32(a)-~~] this subsection. The office of youth services may



1 develop sight and sound separation standards, issue
2 certifications, monitor and inspect facilities for compliance,
3 cite facilities for violations, withdraw certifications, and
4 require certified facilities to submit data and information as
5 requested. In addition, the office of youth services may
6 monitor and inspect all cellblocks and centers for compliance
7 with ~~[section 571-32(d)]~~ this subsection."

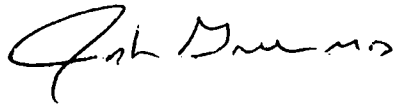
8 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 694
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 26th day of June, 2025

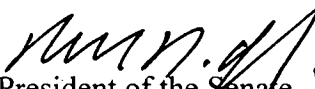
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Josh" and last name "Green" clearly distinguishable.


GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate
of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2025.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 694, HD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 30, 2025
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives