A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TORT ACTIONS.

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

| 1 | SECTION 1. Section 663-10.95, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
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| 2 | amended to read as follows: |
| 3 | "[+]\$663-10.95 Motorsports facilities; waiver of |
| 4 | <pre>liability.[+] (a) Any waiver and release, waiver of liability,</pre> |
| 5 | or indemnity agreement in favor of an owner, lessor, lessee, |
| 6 | operator, or promoter of a motorsports facility, which releases |
| 7 | or waives any claim by a participant or anyone claiming on |
| 8 | behalf of the participant which is signed by the participant in |
| 9 | any motorsports or sports event involving motorsports in the |
| 10 | State, shall be valid and enforceable against any negligence |
| 11 | claim for personal injury of the participant or anyone claiming |
| 12 | on behalf of and for the participant against the motorsports |
| 13 | facility, or the owner, operator, or promoter of a motorsports |
| 14 | facility. The waiver and release shall be valid notwithstanding |
| 15 | any claim that the participant did not read, understand, or |
| 16 | comprehend the waiver and release, waiver of liability, or |
| 17 | indemnity agreement if the waiver or release is signed by both |
| 18 | the participant and a witness[; provided that a]. A waiver and |

- 1 release, waiver of liability, or indemnity agreement executed
- 2 pursuant to this section shall not be enforceable against the
- 3 rights of any minor [or the minor's representative.], unless
- 4 executed in writing by a parent or legal guardian.
- 5 (b) The execution of a waiver and release, waiver of
- 6 liability, or indemnity agreement shall create a presumption
- 7 that the person signing the document read and understood the
- 8 document.
- 9 [(c) For the purposes of this section:
- 10 "Motorsports facility" means land, building, structure, or
- 11 area designed or modified for motorsports activities including
- 12 the track and surrounding area wherein a motorsports or other
- 13 event involving motor vehicles is held and which is clearly
- 14 demarcated as a restricted area to spectators. "Motorsports
- 15 facility" shall not include the areas intended for use by
- 16 spectators or nonparticipants.
- 17 "Owner" means a person or entity which owns or holds fee
- 18 simple title to, or a leasehold interest in, a motorsports
- 19 facility or any portion of a motorsports facility, and shall
- 20 include without limitation, a fee owner or lessor of the
- 21 underlying land, a lessee, or sublessee, or a sublessor or
- 22 master lessor, of a motorsports facility or a portion thereof.

| 1 | "Participant" means a person who is participating in a |
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| 2 | motorsports event at a motorsports facility, including practices |
| 3 | or trials, as a rider, passenger or driver, official, or owner |
| 4 | of a vehicle or equipment used in a motorsports, or anyone |
| 5 | assisting any of the foregoing, or a person entering an area of |
| 6 | the motorsports facility restricted to participants. |
| 7 | [(d)] <u>(c)</u> A waiver and release, waiver of liability, or |
| 8 | indemnity agreement executed under this section shall be |
| 9 | construed as an express assumption of risk on the part of the |
| 10 | party executing such a waiver and release, waiver of liability, |
| 11 | or indemnity agreement. |
| 12 | $[\frac{(e)}{(d)}]$ This section shall not apply to acts or |
| 13 | omissions constituting gross negligence, wilful and wanton |
| 14 | conduct, or intentional acts on the part of another participant |
| 15 | or employees or agents of the motorsports facility. |
| 16 | $\left[\frac{f}{f}\right]$ (e) The provisions of this section shall not apply |
| 17 | to any motorsports facility unless the facility has a general |
| 18 | liability policy of no less than \$1,000,000 for spectators and |
| 19 | no less than \$500,000 for participants, per claim, indemnifying |
| 20 | participants and spectators for the negligence of the facility, |
| 21 | its employees or agents. |

| 1 | (f) Without regard to whether a waiver and release, waiver |
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| 2 | of liability, or indemnity agreement has been executed pursuant |
| 3 | to subsection (a) and without regard to subsection (e), no |
| 4 | public entity or public employee shall be liable to a |
| 5 | participant, for injury or damage sustained during the person's |
| 6 | use of a motorsports facility, except when the injury or damage |
| 7 | is caused by a condition resulting from the public entity's |
| 8 | failure to design, maintain, or repair the motorsports facility. |
| 9 | This limitation of liability for public entities and employees |
| 10 | applies only to the provision of motorsports facilities and |
| 11 | shall not extend to other activities, including but not limited |
| 12 | to police and security, ambulance and medical, fire, food |
| 13 | concessions, and other non-motorsports activities or functions. |
| 14 | (g) For the purposes of this section: |
| 15 | "Motorsports facility" means land, building, structure, or |
| 16 | area designed or modified for motorsports activities, including |
| 17 | the track and surrounding area wherein a motorsports or other |
| 18 | event involving motor vehicles is held and which is clearly |
| 19 | demarcated as a restricted area to spectators. "Motorsports |
| 20 | facility" shall not include the areas intended for use by |
| 21 | spectators or nonparticipants. |

S.B. NO. S.D. 2 H.D. 2 C.D. 1

| 1 | "Owner" means a person or entity that owns or holds fee |
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| 2 | simple title to, or a leasehold interest in, a motorsports |
| 3 | facility or any portion of a motorsports facility, and shall |
| 4 | include without limitation, a fee owner or lessor of the |
| 5 | underlying land, a lessee, or sublessee, or a sublessor or |
| 6 | master lessor, of a motorsports facility or a portion thereof. |
| 7 | "Participant" means a person who is participating in a |
| 8 | motorsports event at a motorsports facility, including practices |
| 9 | or trials, as a rider, passenger or driver, official, or owner |
| 10 | of a vehicle or equipment used in a motorsports event, or anyone |
| 11 | assisting any of the foregoing, or a person entering an area of |
| 12 | the motorsports facility restricted to participants." |
| 13 | SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed |
| 14 | and stricken. New statutory material is underscored. |
| 15 | SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. |

SB2213, SD2, HD2, CD1

Report Title:

Motorsports Facilities; Tort Actions; Waiver of Liability; Qualified Immunity

Description:

Prohibits liability waivers from being enforceable against the rights of a minor who suffers injuries from participating in a motorsports event at a motorsports facility, unless executed in writing by a parent or legal guardian. Provides qualified immunity for public entities and public employees from injuries sustained by a person when using a motorsports facility. Effective date July 1, 2096. (CD1)