A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PROTECTION OF PUBLIC TRANSIT WORKERS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 707-700, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted 2 and to read as follows: 3 ""Public transit worker" means an operator of any 4 conveyance owned, leased, or under contract to the State or a 5 county for the purpose of transporting passengers, whether the 6 person is an employee of the State or a county or a contractor 7 8 providing passenger transportation services to the State or 9 county." SECTION 2. Chapter 707, part III, Hawaii Revised Statutes, 10 11 is amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately designated and to read as follows: 12 "§707- Assault against a public transit worker in the 13 first degree. (1) A person commits the offense of assault 14

against a public transit worker in the first degree if the

HB LRB 06-1533.doc

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person:

1	<u>(a)</u>	Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to a
2		public transit worker who is engaged in the
3		performance of duty; or
4	<u>(b)</u>	Recklessly or negligently causes, with a dangerous
5		instrument, bodily injury to a public transit worker
6		who is engaged in the performance of duty.
7	(2)	Assault of a public transit worker in the first degree
8	is a clas	s C felony. The court, at a minimum, shall sentence
9	the perso	n who has been convicted of this offense to:
10	<u>(a)</u>	An indeterminate term of imprisonment of five years,
11		pursuant to section 706-660; or
12	<u>(b)</u>	Five years probation, with conditions to include a
13		term of imprisonment of not less than thirty days
14		without possibility of suspension of sentence.
15	<u>§707</u>	- Assault against a public transit worker in the
16	second de	gree. (1) A person commits the offense of assault
17	against a	public transit worker in the second degree if the
18	person re	cklessly causes bodily injury to a public transit
19	worker wh	o is engaged in the performance of duty.
20	(2)	Assault of a public transit worker in the second
21	degree is	a misdemeanor. The court shall sentence the person
22	who has b	een convicted of this offense to a definite term of

- 1 imprisonment, pursuant to section 706-663, of not less than
- 2 thirty days without possibility of probation or suspension of
- 3 sentence."

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- 4 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 5 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 6 begun, before its effective date.
- 7 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.
- 8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2008

HB 2903

Report Title:

Crimes; Assault; Public Transit Worker

Description:

Establishes the class C felony and misdemeanor offenses of assault against a public transit worker in the first and second degrees, respectively.