

JAN 19 2007

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEXUAL ABUSE.

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

1       SECTION 1. In Hawaii, hundreds of children are sexually  
2 abused. These cases are often the most difficult cases to  
3 manage and sexually abused children have the most difficult time  
4 accessing services and treatment. A critical function of victim  
5 advocacy is to ensure that crime victims and supportive family  
6 members receive the support and intervention they need to remedy  
7 the effects of crime. Victims and supportive family members who  
8 receive appropriate support are better able to cooperate with  
9 the criminal justice system, which enables the system to do its  
10 job more effectively and efficiently. In addition, child sexual  
11 abuse is a crime that frequently results in serious long-term  
12 mental health problems for victims and their families. The  
13 legislature finds that providing treatment services for child  
14 victims of sexual abuse is crucial in ameliorating these mental  
15 health problems. Therefore, helping child sexual abuse victims  
16 receive the mental health treatment they need is an important



1 component of victim advocacy and benefits both the children and  
2 their families.

3 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for  
4 treatment services for child victims of intrafamilial sexual  
5 abuse and sexually reactive children who are not covered under  
6 the child protective services system of the department of human  
7 services. These services include, but are not limited to,  
8 psychological treatment and case management services for child  
9 victims and their families.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$208,000, or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
13 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
14 2008-2009, to provide treatment services for child victims of  
15 intrafamilial sexual abuse and sexually reactive children who  
16 are not covered under the child protective services system of  
17 the department of human services, including, but not limited to,  
18 psychological treatment and case management services.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the judiciary  
20 via the children's justice center in accordance with chapter  
21 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY: Shianne Chun Cleland

Cherene Trickett

P. M.

Nomom Sikani

Y. K. Khan

Q. Almi Egh



**Report Title:**

Sexual Abuse; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to provide treatment services for child victims of sexual abuse, including psychological treatment and case management services for child victims and their families.

