A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER.

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

1	SECTION 1. Chapter 711, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately
3	designated and to read as follows:
4	"§711-A Aggravated online harassment. (1) A person
5	commits the offense of aggravated online harassment if that
6	person commits the offense of online harassment as provided in
7	section 711-B and has been convicted of online harassment under
8	section 711-B within five years preceding the instant offense.
9	(2) Aggravated online harassment is a class C felony.
10	§711-B Online harassment. (1) A person commits the
11	offense of online harassment if that person uses the name or
12	persona of another person to create a web page on or to post one
13	or more messages on a commercial social networking site:
14	(a) Without obtaining the other person's consent; and
15	(b) With the intent to harm, defraud, intimidate, or
16	threaten any person.
17	(2) Online harassment is a misdemeanor.

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              It shall be a defense to prosecution under this
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    section that the actor is any of the following entities or that
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    the actor's conduct consists solely of action taken as an
4
    employee of any of the following entities:
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        (a)
              A commercial social networking site;
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              An internet service provider;
        (b)
7
        (c)
              A telecommunications provider;
8
              A cable operator, as defined by section 440G-3; or
        (d)
9
              An interactive computer service, as defined by Title
        (e)
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              47 United States Code section 230.
11
              For the purposes of this section, "commercial social
         (4)
12
    networking site" means any business, organization, or other
    similar entity operating a website that permits persons to
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14
    become registered users for the purpose of establishing personal
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    relationships with other users through direct or real-time
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    communication with other users or the creation of web pages or
17
    profiles available to the public or to other users. The term
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    does not include an electronic mail program or a message board
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    program."
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         SECTION 2. Section 711-1106.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
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    amended to read as follows:
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- 1 "[+]§711-1106.6[+] Harassment by impersonation. (1) A
- 2 person commits the offense of harassment by impersonation if
- 3 that person poses as another person, without the express
- 4 authorization of [that] the other person, and makes or causes to
- 5 be made, either directly or indirectly, a transmission of any
- 6 personal information of the other person to another by any oral
- 7 statement, any written statement, or any statement conveyed by
- 8 any electronic means, with the intent to harass, annoy, or alarm
- 9 any person.
- 10 (2) Harassment by impersonation is a misdemeanor [-];
- 11 provided that, if the offense is committed with the intent to
- 12 solicit a response by emergency services personnel, then the
- 13 offense is a class C felony.
- 14 (3) For the purposes of this section:
- "Personal information" means information associated with an
- 16 actual person that is a name, an address, a domain address, a
- 17 telephone number, or an electronic mail address.
- 18 "Pose" means to falsely represent oneself, directly or
- 19 indirectly, as another person or persons."
- 20 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 21 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 22 begun before its effective date.

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- 1 SECTION 4. In codifying the new sections added by section
- 2 1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
- 3 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
- 4 the new sections in this Act.
- 5 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 1 2011

Report Title:

Computers; Online Harassment; Aggravated Online Harassment; Harassment by Impersonation

Description:

Makes the use of another person's name or persona to create a web page on or to post one or more messages on a commercial social networking site, without the permission of the other person, and with the intent to harm, defraud, intimidate, or threaten any person, a misdemeanor. Makes the repeated commission of this offense a class C felony. Provides that harassment by impersonation, if committed with the intent to solicit a response by emergency services personnel, is a class C felony.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.