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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIME.

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

- SECTION 1. Chapter 128, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
- 3 and to read as follows:
- 4 "§128- Interference with warning or signal devices. No
- 5 person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to or in fact
- 6 alter, deface, injure, knock down, or remove any official
- 7 warning or signal device, or any other part thereof. Violation
- 8 of this section shall be a class C felony."
- 9 SECTION 2. Section 128-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- 11 "\$128-32 Misdemeanors. Any person violating any rule or
- 12 regulation of the governor prescribed and promulgated pursuant
- 13 to this chapter and having the force and effect of law, shall,
- 14 if it shall be so stated in the rule or regulation, be quilty of
- 15 a misdemeanor. Upon conviction the person shall be fined not
- 16 more than \$5,000, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.
- 17 Any person who, wilfully or through gross negligence,
- 18 destroys, damages, or loses any shelter[τ] or protective

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- 1 device[, or warning or signal device,] shall if the same was
- 2 installed or constructed by the United States, the State, or a
- 3 political subdivision, or is the property of the United States,
- 4 the State, or a political subdivision, be fined not more than
- 5 \$2,000 or imprisoned not more than ninety days, or both. The
- 6 governor, by rule or regulation, may make further provisions for
- 7 the protection from misuse of shelters $[\tau]$ and protective
- 8 [devices, and warning and signal] devices."
- 9 SECTION 3. Section 264-45, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- "[+]§264-45[+] Highway lighting. (a) To the extent that
- 12 it is practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation
- 13 or federal law, regulation, or mandate, if any highway rule or
- 14 standard relating to highway lighting conflicts with any county
- 15 ordinance or other rule regarding highway lighting, the more
- 16 stringent requirement or standard shall govern all new
- 17 installations of highway lighting.
- 18 (b) No person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to
- 19 or in fact alter, deface, injure, knock down, or remove any
- 20 highway lighting or any other part thereof. Violation of this
- 21 section shall be a class C felony.



1 (c) A person charged with a violation of this section may 2 assert a vehicular accident as an affirmative defense to 3 prosecution under this section." 4 SECTION 4. Section 291C-37, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 5 amended to read as follows: 6 "[+]§291C-37[+] Interference with official traffic-control 7 devices or railroad signs or signals. (a) No person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to or in fact alter, deface, 8 injure, knock down, or remove any official traffic-control 10 device or any railroad sign or signal or any inscription, 11 shield, or insignia thereon, or any other part thereof. Violation of this section shall be a class C felony. 12 (b) A person charged with a violation of this section may 13 14 assert a vehicular accident as an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section." 15 16 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored. **17** SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. 18 19

INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Warning Devices; Highway Lighting; Traffic-control Devices

Description:

Makes defacing, injuring, knocking down or removing any warning or signal device, highway lighting, or traffic-control device, or attempting to deface, injure, knock down or remove any of the same, a class C felony. Creates an affirmative defense in cases involving highway lighting or traffic-control devices.

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