A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RESTITUTION FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME.

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

1 SECTION 1. Due to the recent holding in State v. DeMello, 130 Hawai'i 332, 310 P.3d 1033 (App. 2013), which denied 2 restitution for a crime victim's wage loss on the basis that 3 "[t]here is no explicit provision in HRS §706-646 for the award 4 of lost wages as part of restitution", the legislature finds 5 that crime victims who miss work due to injuries or impairment, 6 suffered as a result of a defendant's offense, are currently 8 being denied restitution for those lost earnings. Similarly, 9 based on the DeMello analysis and holding, it appears that 10 courts would similarly deny "therapy" expenses. 11 The legislature further finds that the additional language 12 in this Act will clarify that the intent of section 706-646, 13 Hawaii Revised Statutes, is to reimburse crime victims fully for 14 all reasonable and verified losses resulting from a defendant's 15 Nevertheless, as signaled by the use of the phrase,

"including but not limited to", the losses enumerated in

subsection (3) of section 706-646, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are

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- 1 intended to be illustrative, not exhaustive, for purposes of
- 2 restitution.
- 3 SECTION 2. Section 706-646, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 4 amended by amending subsection (3) to read:
- 5 "(3) In ordering restitution, the court shall not consider
- 6 the defendant's financial ability to make restitution in
- 7 determining the amount of restitution to order. The court,
- 8 however, shall consider the defendant's financial ability to
- 9 make restitution for the purpose of establishing the time and
- 10 manner of payment. The court shall specify the time and manner
- in which restitution is to be paid[-]; provided that while the
- 12 defendant is in the custody of the director of public safety,
- 13 restitution payments shall be as set forth in section 353-22.6.
- 14 Restitution shall be a dollar amount that is sufficient to
- 15 reimburse any victim fully for losses, including but not limited
- 16 to:
- 17 (a) Full value of stolen or damaged property, as
- 18 determined by replacement costs of like property, or
- the actual or estimated cost of repair, if repair is
- 20 possible;
- 21 (b) Medical expenses[; and], which include mental health
- treatment, counseling, and therapy;

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1	(c)	Funeral	and	burial	expenses	[incurred as	-a result	-o£
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- 3 (d) Lost earnings, which include paid leave."
- 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. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

By Request

JAN 1 4 2014

H.B. NO. 1670

Report Title:

Crime Victim Restitution; Lost Wages; Therapy

Description:

Clarifies that reimbursement to crime victims includes lost wages and mental health treatment and therapy.

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