A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SOCIAL MEDIA.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by 2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read 3 as follows: 4 "CHAPTER 5 SOCIAL MEDIA PRIVACY PROTECTION 6 Definitions. As used in this chapter: "Employer" shall have the same meaning as in section 378-1. 7 8 "School" means any elementary, intermediate, middle, or 9 high school, college, or university in the State. "Social networking account" means an internet-based 10 11 personalized, privacy-protected website or application, whether 12 free or commercial, that enables a user to construct a private or semi-private profile site within a bounded system, create a 13 list of other system users who are granted reciprocal access to 14 the individual's profile site, send and receive email, and share 15 16 personal content, communications, and contacts.

1	§ -2 School access to student or potential student's
2	social networking accounts prohibited. (a) A school shall not
3	require or request a student or potential student to:
4	(1) Disclose a username and password for the purpose of
5	accessing the student or potential student's social
6	networking account;
7	(2) Access the student or potential student's social
8	networking account in the presence of an agent of the
9	school so as to give the school access;
10	(3) Divulge information from any social networking
11	account, except as provided in subsection (b); or
12	(4) Add the school or an agent of the school to the
13	student's social networking account.
14	(b) Nothing in this section shall preclude a school from
15	conducting an investigation for the purposes of ensuring
16	compliance with applicable laws or prohibitions against school-
17	related student misconduct based on the receipt of specific
18	information about activity on a social networking online account
19	or service by a student or other source. Conducting an
20	investigation includes requiring the student's cooperation to

share the content that has been reported to make a factual

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determination.

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1	(C)	Nothing	ın	this	section	snall	рe	construed	to	prevent

- 2 a school from complying with the requirements of state or
- 3 federal statutes, rules, regulations, or case law.
- 4 (d) Nothing in this section shall preclude a school from
- 5 requiring or requesting a student to disclose a username or
- 6 password for the purpose of accessing:
- 7 (1) Any electronic communications device supplied or paid
- for in whole or in part by the school; or
- 9 (2) Any accounts or services provided by the school.
- 10 (e) Nothing in this section shall:
- 11 (1) Create a duty for a school to search or monitor the
- 12 activity of a social networking account; or
- 13 (2) Create liability on the part of the school or its
- 14 agents for failure to request or require that a
- 15 student or potential student grant access to, allow
- 16 observation of, or disclose information that allows
- 17 access to or observation of a student's or prospective
- 18 student's social networking account.
- 19 (f) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a school from
- 20 monitoring, reviewing, accessing, or blocking electronic data
- 21 stored on an electronic communications device paid for in whole

- 1 or in part by the school, or traveling through or stored on a
- 2 school's network, in compliance with state and federal law.
- 3 (g) A school shall not expel, discipline, threaten to
- 4 discharge or discipline, or retaliate against a student or a
- 5 potential student for not complying with a request or demand by
- 6 the school that violates this section; provided that this
 - 7 section shall not prohibit a school from expelling or taking an
 - 8 adverse action against a student or potential student if
 - 9 otherwise permitted by law.
- 10 (h) A school that violates this section shall pay a fine
- 11 of not more than \$
- 12 S -3 Employer access to employee or potential employee
- 13 social networking accounts prohibited. (a) An employer shall
- 14 not require or request an employee or potential employee to:
- 15 (1) Disclose a username and password for the purpose of
- accessing the employee or potential employee's social
- 18 (2) Access the employee or potential employee's social
- 19 networking account in the presence of the employer;
- 20 (3) Divulge information from any social networking
- 21 account, except as provided in subsection (b); or

1	(4)	Add the employer to the employee or potentia	al
2		employee's social networking account.	

- 3 (b) Nothing in this section shall preclude an employer
- 4 from conducting an investigation:
- 5 (1) For the purposes of ensuring compliance with
 6 applicable laws, regulatory requirements, or
 7 prohibitions against work-related employee misconduct
 8 based on the receipt of specific information about
 9 activity on a social networking account or other
 10 personal online service by an employee or other
 11 source; or
- 12 (2) Of an employee's actions based on the receipt of
 13 specific information about the unauthorized transfer
 14 of an employer's proprietary information, confidential
 15 information, or financial data to a social networking
 16 account or other personal online service by an
 17 employee or other source.
- Conducting an investigation as specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) includes requiring the employee's cooperation to share the content that has been reported in order to make a factual determination.

1 (c) Nothing in this section shall be const	istrued to) prevent
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- 2 an employer from complying with the requirements of state or
- 3 federal statutes, rules, regulations, or case law, or rules of
- 4 self-regulatory organizations.
- 5 (d) Nothing in this section shall preclude an employer
- 6 from requiring or requesting an employee to disclose a username
- 7 or password for the purpose of accessing:
- 8 (1) Any electronic communications device supplied or paid
- 9 for in whole or in part by the employer; or
- 10 (2) Any accounts or services provided by the employer or
- by virtue of the employee's employment relationship
- with the employer or that the employee uses for
- business purposes.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall:
- 15 (1) Create a duty for an employer to search or monitor the
- 16 activity of a social networking account; or
- 17 (2) Create liability on the part of the employer for
- failure to request or require that an employee or
- 19 potential employee grant access to, allow observation
- of, or disclose information that allows access to or
- 21 observation of an employee or potential employees
- 22 social networking account.



- (f) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an employer 1
- from monitoring, reviewing, accessing, or blocking electronic 2
- 3 data stored on an electronic communications device paid for in
- whole or in part by the employer, or traveling through or stored 4
- on an employer's network, in compliance with state and federal 5
- 6 law.
- An employer shall not discharge, discipline, threaten 7
- to discharge or discipline, or retaliate against an employee or 8
- potential employee for not complying with a request or demand by 9
- the employer that violates this section; provided that this 10
- section shall not prohibit an employer from terminating or 11
- taking an adverse action against an employee or potential 12
- 13 employee if otherwise permitted by law.
- (h) An employer who violates this section shall pay a fine 14
- 15 of not more than \$
- This Act does not affect rights and duties that 16
- matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were 17
- 18 begun before its effective date.
- SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. 19

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Jula a Buntos

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Report Title:

Social Networking; Privacy

Description:

Prohibits employers and schools from requiring or requesting employees, potential employees, students, and potential students to grant access to social networking site account usernames and passwords.

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