



GOV. MSG. NO. 1126

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

May 28, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 28, 2021, the following bill was signed into law:

HB975 HD1 SD1

RELATING TO REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE
ACT 026(21)

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Child Abuse
2 Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-247), as amended,
3 provides federal funding to states for prevention, assessment,
4 investigation, prosecution, and treatment activities for child
5 abuse and neglect. On January 7, 2019, the Victims of Child
6 Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-424), was
7 enacted, further amending certain provisions of the Child Abuse
8 Prevention and Treatment Act. The 2019 amendment provides
9 immunity from civil and criminal liability "for individuals
10 making good faith reports of suspected or known instances of
11 child abuse or neglect, or who otherwise provide information or
12 assistance, including medical evaluations or consultations, in
13 connection with a report, investigation, or legal intervention
14 pursuant to a good faith report of child abuse or neglect."

15 The legislature further finds that due to the impact of the
16 coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic on the Hawaii state
17 legislature's regular session of 2020, the Children's Bureau of



1 the Administration for Children and Families of the United
2 States Department of Health and Human Services, granted the
3 department of human services an extension until June 30, 2021,
4 to bring Hawaii's law into compliance with federal law.

5 The purpose of this Act is to bring state law into
6 compliance with the most recent amendments to the Child Abuse
7 Prevention and Treatment Act by no later than June 30, 2021.

8 SECTION 2. Section 350-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

10 "(a) Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a
11 report pursuant to this chapter shall have immunity from any
12 liability, civil or criminal, that might be otherwise incurred
13 or imposed by or as a result of the making of such report[-],
14 including persons who otherwise provide information or
15 assistance, including medical evaluations or consultation, in
16 connection with a report, investigation, or legal intervention
17 pursuant to a good faith report of child abuse or neglect. Any
18 such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to
19 participation in any judicial proceeding resulting from such
20 report."



1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 2021.

APPROVED this 28 day of MAY, 2021



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



HB No. 975, HD 1, SD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 27, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: April 13, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2021.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate