

JAN 21 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

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

1 SECTION 1. When a state of emergency was declared in 2020
2 due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, travel between islands was
3 severely restricted or in some cases prohibited. This travel
4 restriction severely limited, delayed, and in some cases
5 deterred investigators from the department of the attorney
6 general from carrying out their duties. The purpose of this Act
7 is to require at least one investigator from the department of
8 the attorney general to be based in each county.

9 SECTION 2. Section 28-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "**§28-11 Investigators; appointment and powers.** (a) The
12 attorney general shall appoint and commission one or more
13 investigators for each county in the State, at least one of whom
14 shall be based in the county in which they serve, as the
15 exigencies of the public service may require. Persons appointed
16 and commissioned under this section shall have and may exercise
17 all of the powers and authority and the benefits and privileges



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1 of a police officer or of a deputy sheriff. These investigators
2 shall consist of personnel whose primary duty will be to conduct
3 investigations as directed by the attorney general.

4 (b) The attorney general may also appoint persons whose
5 primary function shall be to provide security coverage for the
6 governor and other public officials of this State, to be known
7 as security investigators, who shall have and may exercise all
8 the powers and authority of the investigators appointed under
9 subsection (a). When not providing security coverage for the
10 governor or other public officials, the security investigators
11 shall conduct other investigations as directed by the attorney
12 general. The positions of security investigators may be exempt
13 from chapter 76."

14 SECTION 3. The department of the attorney general shall
15 reorganize existing or fill vacant investigator positions to
16 comply with the requirements of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____



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Report Title:

Attorney General; Investigators

Description:

Requires at least one Attorney General investigator be based in each county in the State.

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