
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 805-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§805-1 Complaint; form of warrant.** When a complaint is
4 made to any prosecuting officer of the commission of any
5 offense, the prosecuting officer shall ~~[examine]~~ review the
6 ~~[complainant, shall]~~ evidence, reduce the substance of the
7 complaint to writing, and ~~[shall]~~ cause the complaint to be
8 ~~[subscribed]~~ :

9 (1) Subscribed by the complainant under oath, which the
10 prosecuting officer is hereby authorized to
11 administer~~[, or the complaint shall be made]~~;

12 (2) Made by declaration in accordance with the rules of
13 court~~[-]~~; or

14 (3) Signed by the prosecuting officer.

15 If the original complaint results from the issuance of a
16 traffic summons or a citation in lieu of an arrest pursuant to
17 section 803-6, by a police officer, the oath may be administered



1 by any police officer whose name has been submitted to the
2 prosecuting officer and who has been designated by the chief of
3 police to administer the oath, or the complaint may be submitted
4 by declaration in accordance with the rules of court. Upon
5 presentation of the written complaint to the judge in whose
6 circuit the offense allegedly has been committed, the judge
7 shall issue a warrant, reciting the complaint and requiring the
8 sheriff, or other officer to whom it is directed, except as
9 provided in section 805-3, to arrest the accused and to bring
10 the accused before the judge to be dealt with according to law;
11 and in the same warrant the judge may require the officer to
12 summon such witnesses as are named in the warrant to appear and
13 give evidence at the trial. The warrant may be in the form
14 established by the usage and practice of the issuing court."

15 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
17 begun before its effective date.


18 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



H.B. NO. 1541

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

2

INTRODUCED BY: 
By Request
JAN 19 2022



H.B. NO. 1541

Report Title:

Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney's Office Package; Criminal
Procedure; Criminal Complaints

Description:

Clarifies acceptable procedure for initiating criminal
complaints.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is
not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

