
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UNLAWFUL CHOP SHOP ACTIVITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that "chop shop" is
2 street vernacular for a location where stolen motor vehicles, or
3 stolen motor vehicle parts, are taken to be altered to conceal
4 their true identity. Chop shop activity may include the theft
5 of motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts; defacing vehicle
6 identification numbers; re-stamping false vehicle identification
7 numbers into stolen vehicles; and the re-sale of these stolen
8 vehicles to unsuspecting, innocent buyers.

9 The purpose of this Act is to establish the criminal
10 offense of unlawful chop shop activity and to provide for the
11 forfeiture of property connected with chop shop activity.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 708, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
14 to read as follows:

15 **"PART**

16 **UNLAWFUL CHOP SHOP ACTIVITY**

17 §708- **Definitions.** As used in this part:



1 "Chop shop" means:

2 (1) Any building, lot, or other premises that is used to
3 store, destroy, dismantle, disassemble, or reassemble
4 a motor vehicle, or two or more motor vehicle parts,
5 that the person knows to have been stolen; or

6 (2) Any building, lot, or other premises that is used to
7 alter, conceal, disguise, or remove the vehicle
8 identification number of at least one motor vehicle,
9 or two or more motor vehicle parts from at least one
10 motor vehicle, that the person knows to have been
11 stolen.

12 "Motor vehicle" means any automobile, motorcycle,
13 motorboat, or other motor-propelled vehicle.

14 "Vehicle identification number" means the number that the
15 manufacturer or a governmental agency assigns to a motor vehicle
16 for the purpose of identifying the motor vehicle or a major
17 component part of the motor vehicle. "Vehicle identification
18 number" includes any combination of numbers or letters.

19 **§708- Unlawful chop shop activity.** (1) A person
20 commits the offense of unlawful chop shop activity if the person
21 knowingly:



- 1 (a) Owns or operates a chop shop;
- 2 (b) Transports a stolen motor vehicle, or two or more
- 3 stolen motor vehicle parts, to or from a chop shop;
- 4 (c) Sells or transfers to, or purchases or receives from a
- 5 chop shop, a stolen motor vehicle or two or more
- 6 stolen motor vehicle parts; or
- 7 (d) Conducts or participates in the conduct of the affairs
- 8 of any chop shop by:
- 9 (i) Storing, destroying, dismantling, disassembling,
- 10 or reassembling a stolen motor vehicle, or two or
- 11 more stolen motor vehicle parts; or
- 12 (ii) Altering, concealing, disguising, or removing the
- 13 vehicle identification number of at least one
- 14 stolen motor vehicle, or two or more motor
- 15 vehicle parts from at least one stolen motor
- 16 vehicle.
- 17 (2) Unlawful chop shop activity is a misdemeanor.

18 **§708- Forfeiture of property connected with chop shop**

19 **activity.** Any motor vehicle, motor vehicle part, tool,

20 implement, or real property, possessed or used in violation of

21 this part, or any money obtained in violation of this part, may



1 be ordered forfeited to the State, subject to the requirements
2 of chapter 712A."

3 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
4 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
5 begun before its effective date.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 30, 2075.



Report Title:

Hawaii State Association of Counties Package; Penal Code; Chop Shops; Unlawful Chop Shop Activity

Description:

Establishes the criminal offense of unlawful chop shop activity. Provides for the forfeiture of property connected with chop shop activity. Defines "chop shop." Takes effect July 30, 2075.
(SD1)

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