

# GOV. MSG. NO. 1127

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA

April 19, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate, and Members of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  The Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, and Members of the House of Representatives Thirty-Second 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 April 19, 2023, the following bill was signed into law:

HB841 HD2

RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTECTIVE ORDERS. ACT 027

Sincerely,

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Josh Green, M.D. Governor, State of Hawai'i

#### Approved by the Governor

ON <u>APR 1 9 2023</u> HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII

**ACT 027** 

H.B. NO. <sup>841</sup> H.D. 2

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTECTIVE ORDERS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that when a parent seeks 1 a domestic abuse restraining order against another parent or 2 household member for allegations of domestic abuse, the law 3 4 requires a referral to the department of human services for 5 intervention or investigation by the child welfare services branch. The legislature further finds that the law is 6 7 unnecessarily broad and overburdens the child welfare services branch. Automatic referrals should be limited to allegations of 8 9 child abuse. The legislature notes that the family court currently has the authority, at its discretion, to refer a case 10 to the department of human services where investigation is 11 12 warranted to ensure the family's safety.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to amend the automatic referral requirements regarding domestic abuse protective orders to apply only when there are allegations of alleged child abuse.



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SECTION 2. Section 586-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
amended to read as follows:

3 "\$586-10.5 Reports by the department of human services; 4 court responsibilities. In cases where there are allegations of [domestic] child abuse or neglect, as defined in section 350-1, 5 involving a family or household member who is a minor or an 6 .7 incapacitated person as defined in section 560:5-102, the 8 employee or appropriate nonjudicial agency designated by the 9 family court to assist the petitioner shall report the matter to 10 the department of human services, as required under chapters 350 11 and 587A, and [shall] further notify the department of the 12 granting of the temporary restraining order and of the hearing 13 date. The department of human services shall provide the family 14 court with a written report on the disposition of the referral. 15 The court shall file the report and mail it to the petitioner 16 and respondent at least two working days before the hearing 17 date, if possible. If circumstances prevent the mailing of the 18 report as required in this section, the court shall provide 19 copies of the report to the petitioner and respondent at the 20 hearing. The report shall be noted in the order dismissing the 21 petition or granting the restraining order."

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#### H.B. NO. <sup>841</sup> H.D. 2

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

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

### APPROVED this 19th day of April, 2023

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### **GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII**



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HB No. 841, HD 2

#### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: March 7, 2023 Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023.

Scott K. Saiki Speaker House of Representatives

With little

Brian L. Takeshita Chief Clerk House of Representatives

#### THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: **APR 1 1 2023** Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the

Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023.

Ronald D. Kouchi

President of the Senate

Carol T. Taniguchi Clerk of the Senate