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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MINORS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that adolescence can be a  
2 challenging time for young people. During this stage of life,  
3 adolescents are navigating new experiences while encountering  
4 potential changes in their social spheres, including their  
5 relationships with peers and family members. Adolescents'  
6 romantic relationships can cause tension between family members,  
7 such as when parents do not want their child to date, advise  
8 their child against entering into a relationship with a  
9 particular person, or express disapproval of their child's  
10 dating relationship. It is not uncommon for some adolescents to  
11 keep private the details, in particular any problems or  
12 challenges, of their romantic relationships.

13           The legislature also finds that adolescents in abusive  
14 romantic relationships that were entered into without parental  
15 approval may be reluctant to approach their parents for  
16 assistance. Some adolescents have the option of seeking the  
17 help of another trusted adult who is not their parent, such as a



1 school counselor or domestic violence victim advocate. This  
2 other person may be able to help obtain a protective order when  
3 it is necessary for the adolescent's safety and protection.  
4 However, not all adolescents have access to such a person.

5 The purpose of this Act is to allow minors sixteen years of  
6 age or older, on their own behalf, and emancipated minors to  
7 petition for domestic abuse protective orders.

8 SECTION 2. Section 586-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

10 "(b) A petition for relief under this chapter may be made  
11 by:

12 (1) Any family or household member on the member's own  
13 behalf or on behalf of a family or household member  
14 who is a minor or who is an incapacitated person as  
15 defined in section 560:5-102 or who is physically  
16 unable to go to the appropriate place to complete or  
17 file the petition; [~~or~~]

18 (2) Any state agency on behalf of a person who is a minor  
19 or who is an incapacitated person as defined in  
20 section 560:5-102 or a person who is physically unable



1 to go to the appropriate place to complete or file the  
2 petition on behalf of that person[-]; or

3 (3) Any minor sixteen years of age or older on their own  
4 behalf without the consent of a parent or legal  
5 guardian; or

6 (4) Any emancipated minor as deemed pursuant to section  
7 577-25."

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

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 2023.



**Report Title:**

Domestic Abuse; Protective Orders; Petition; Minors; Emancipated Minors

**Description:**

Allows minors sixteen years of age or older and emancipated minors to petition for domestic abuse protective orders. Effective 6/30/2023. (HD1)

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

