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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PAID SICK LEAVE.

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

I	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the spread of		
2	disease at the workplace can cripple a business. However, some		
3	employees cannot afford to take unpaid leave while sick and thus		
4	come to work anyway.		
5	The purpose of this Act is to encourage employees to take		
6	care of their health and not spread diseases at work by		
7	requiring employers to provide a minimum amount of paid sick		
8	leave to employees and supplemental paid sick leave to employees		
9	under certain public health emergency conditions.		
10	SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by		
11	adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read		
12	as follows:		
13	"CHAPTER		
14	PAID SICK LEAVE		
15	§ -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the		
16	context clearly requires otherwise:		

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"Director" means the director of labor and industrial
 relations.

3 "Employee" has the same meaning as defined in the federal 4 Fair Labor Standards Act, title 29 United States Code section 5 203(e), excluding individuals employed by a public agency as 6 defined in that section, employees and public employees as 7 defined in section 89-2, sole proprietors, and independent 8 contractors. "Employee" includes recipients of public benefits 9 who are engaged in work activity as a condition of receiving 10 public assistance.

II "Employer" has the same meaning as defined in the federal
I2 Fair Labor Standards Act, title 29 United States Code section
I3 203(d), excluding a public agency as defined in that section,
I4 and employer and public employer as defined in section 89-2.

15 "Paid sick leave" means time away from work provided by an 16 employer to an employee that is compensated at the same hourly 17 rate and with the same benefits, including health care benefits, 18 as the employee normally earns during hours worked.

19 "Preventive medical care" means routine health care that
20 includes screenings, check-ups, and patient counseling to
21 prevent illnesses, disease, or other health problems.

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1 -2 Accrual of paid sick leave. (a) All employees who S 2 work in the State for more than eighty hours in a year shall 3 have the right to paid sick leave as provided in this chapter. 4 (b) All employees shall accrue a minimum of one hour of 5 paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked. Employees shall 6 not accrue more than forty hours of paid sick leave in a 7 calendar year unless the employer provides a higher limit. An employee who is exempt from overtime requirements 8 (C)9 under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, title 29 United States Code section 213(a)(1), shall be assumed to work forty 10 hours in each work week for purposes of paid sick leave accrual 11 12 unless the employee's normal work week is less than forty hours, in which case paid sick leave shall accrue based upon the actual 13 14 hours in the normal work week. 15 Paid sick leave as provided in this chapter shall (d) begin to accrue at the commencement of employment or the 16 17 effective date of this chapter, whichever is later. 18 Employees shall be entitled to use accrued paid sick (e) 19 leave beginning on the ninetieth calendar day following 20 commencement of employment. After the ninetieth calendar day of 21 employment, employees may use paid sick leave as it is accrued.

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(f) Paid sick leave shall be carried over to the following
 calendar year; provided that an employee's use of paid sick
 leave pursuant to this chapter in each calendar year shall not
 exceed forty hours of paid sick leave in a calendar year unless
 the employer provides a higher limit.

6 (g) An employer shall not be required to provide
7 additional paid sick leave if the employer has a paid leave
8 policy that makes available an amount of paid leave sufficient
9 to meet the accrual requirements of this chapter and that may be
10 used for the same purposes and under the same conditions as paid
11 sick leave under this chapter.

12 (h) Nothing in this section shall be construed as
13 requiring financial or other reimbursement to an employee from
14 an employer upon the employee's termination, resignation,
15 retirement, or other separation from employment for unused
16 accrued paid sick leave.

17 (i) If an employee is transferred to a separate division,
18 entity, or location but remains employed by the same employer,
19 the employee shall be entitled to all paid sick leave accrued at
20 the prior division, entity, or location and shall be entitled to
21 use all paid sick leave as provided in this chapter. If an

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1 employee is separated from employment and subsequently rehired 2 within six months of separation by the same employer, the 3 employee's previously accrued and unused paid sick leave shall 4 be reinstated. In addition, the employee shall be entitled to 5 use accrued paid sick leave and to accrue additional paid sick 6 leave as of the date of re-commencement of employment. 7 (j) An employer may advance paid sick leave to an employee 8 before its accrual by the employee. 9 S -3 Use of paid sick leave. (a) An employee may use 10 paid sick leave during absences from work due to: 11 (1)An employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or 12 health condition: 13 (2) An employee's need for medical diagnosis, care, or 14 treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury, or 15 health condition; 16 (3) An employee's need for preventive medical care; 17 (4) An employee's need to seek medical attention, legal 18 services, or victim services for a mental or physical 19 illness, injury, or health condition caused by 20 domestic abuse, sexual assault, or harassment to the

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1 employee, or related to preparation for or 2 participation in a civil or criminal proceeding; and 3 (5) Closure of the employee's place of business by order 4 of a public official due to a public health emergency. 5 Paid sick leave shall be provided upon the oral (b) 6 request of an employee. When possible, the request shall 7 include the expected duration of the absence.

8 (c) When the use of paid sick leave is foreseeable, the 9 employee shall make a good faith effort to provide notice of the 10 need for the leave to the employer in advance of the use of the 11 paid sick leave and shall make a reasonable effort to schedule 12 the use of paid sick leave in a manner that does not unduly 13 disrupt the operations of the employer.

14 (d) Accrued paid sick leave may be used in smaller than 15 hourly increments or the smallest increment that the employer's 16 payroll system uses to account for absences or use of other 17 time.

(e) Paid sick leave shall not be used in conjunction with
benefits afforded by temporary disability insurance pursuant to
chapter 392 or workers' compensation pursuant to chapter 386.

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1 S -4 Supplemental paid sick leave; public health 2 **emergencies.** (a) Notwithstanding section -2, on the date a 3 public health emergency is declared, each employer shall 4 supplement each employee's accrued paid sick leave under this 5 section as necessary to ensure that an employee can take forty 6 hours of paid sick leave in a calendar year unless the employer 7 provides a higher limit. 8 (b) An employer may count an employee's unused accrued 9 paid sick leave under section -2 toward the supplemental paid 10 sick leave required by this section. 11 (c) An employee may use paid sick leave under this section 12 until four weeks after the official termination or suspension of 13 the public health emergency for any absence related to the 14 public health emergency, including: 15 The employee's need to self-isolate because the (1)16 employee has been diagnosed with a communicable 17 illness that is the cause of the public health 18 emergency; 19 The employee is experiencing symptoms of a (2) 20 communicable illness that is the cause of the public 21 health emergency; or

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1	(3)	The employee's need to seek or obtain a medical
2		diagnosis, medical care, medical treatment, or
3		preventive care for symptoms of a communicable illness
4		that is the cause of the public health emergency.
5	\$	-5 Notice. (a) An employer shall give its employees
6	notice of	the following:
7	(1)	That employees are entitled to paid sick leave;
8	(2)	The amount of paid sick leave granted pursuant to this
9		chapter;
10	(3)	The terms of paid sick leave use as guaranteed under
11		this chapter; and
12	(4)	That each employee has the right to file a complaint
13		or bring a civil action if paid sick leave, as
14		required by this chapter, is denied by the employer.
15	(b)	An employer shall comply with this section by
16	providing	the information required in subsection (a) by
17	individua	lized notice. The notice shall be in English and in
18	any langu	age that is the first language spoken by at least five
19	per cent	of the employer's workforce.
20	(c)	An employer who wilfully violates the notice
21	requireme	nts of this section shall be subject to a civil fine in

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an amount not to exceed \$100 for each separate offense. Each
 failure to issue notice pursuant to this section shall
 constitute a separate offense.

4 §. -6 Employer records. An employer shall retain records 5 documenting hours worked by employees and paid sick leave taken by employees for a period of five years and shall allow the 6 7 director access to the records, with appropriate notice and at a 8 mutually agreeable time, to monitor compliance with the 9 requirements of this chapter. If an issue arises as to an 10 employee's entitlement to paid sick leave under this chapter, it 11 shall be presumed that the employer has violated this chapter, 12 absent clear and convincing evidence otherwise, if the employer 13 does not maintain or retain adequate records documenting hours 14 worked by the employee and paid sick leave taken by the employee 15 or does not allow the director reasonable access to the records. 16 S -7 Enforcement. (a) An employee or other person may 17 report to the director any suspected violation of this chapter. 18 The director shall encourage reporting pursuant to this

19 subsection by keeping confidential, to the maximum extent 20 permitted by applicable laws, the name and other identifying 21 information of the employee or other person reporting the

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suspected violation; provided that with the authorization of the
 employee or other person, the director may disclose the
 employee's or other person's name and identifying information as
 necessary to enforce this chapter or for other appropriate
 purposes.

6 (b) The director, the attorney general, any person
7 aggrieved by a violation of this chapter, or any labor
8 organization, a member of which is aggrieved by a violation of
9 this chapter, may bring a civil action in a court of competent
10 jurisdiction against an employer who violates this chapter. The
11 action may be brought without first filing an administrative
12 complaint.

13 (c) Upon prevailing in an action brought pursuant to this14 section, an aggrieved person shall recover:

15 (1) The full amount of any paid sick leave to which the16 person is entitled;

17 (2) Actual damages suffered as the result of the18 employer's violation of this chapter; and

19 (3) Reasonable attorney's fees.

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1 An aggrieved person shall also be entitled to equitable 2 relief as may be appropriate to remedy the violation including 3 reinstatement, back pay, and injunctive relief. The statute of limitations for a civil action brought 4 (d) 5 pursuant to this chapter shall be for a period of three years 6 from the date the alleged violation occurred. 7 (e) Actions brought pursuant to this chapter may be 8 brought as a class action. 9 (f) For purposes of this section, "labor organization" has 10 the same meaning as in section 378-1. 11 S -8 Confidentiality and nondisclosure. An employer 12 shall not require disclosure of details of an employee's medical 13 condition as a condition of providing paid sick leave under this 14 chapter. If an employer possesses health information or 15 information pertaining to the details of a medical condition 16 about an employee, the information shall be treated as 17 confidential and shall not be disclosed except to the affected 18 employee or with the permission of the affected employee. 19 S -9 Employer adoption of more generous sick leave 20 policies; no effect on contracts, agreements, and plans 21 providing more generous sick leave. (a) Nothing in this

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chapter shall be construed to discourage or prohibit an employer
 from the adoption or retention of a paid sick leave policy more
 generous to the employee than is required by this chapter.

4 (b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as
5 diminishing the obligation of an employer to comply with any
6 contract, collective bargaining agreement, employment benefit
7 plan, or other agreement providing more generous paid sick leave
8 to an employee than is required by this chapter.

9 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as
10 diminishing the rights of public employees regarding paid sick
11 leave or the use of sick leave as provided by law.

(d) This chapter shall provide the minimum requirements of paid sick leave and shall not be construed to preempt, limit, or otherwise affect the applicability of any other law, rule, requirement, policy, or standard that provides for greater accrual or use by employees of sick leave, whether paid or unpaid, or that extends other protections to employees."

18 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act, or the 19 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held 20 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or 21 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the

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invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
 of this Act are severable.

3 SECTION 4. 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 5. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000;
7 provided that in the case of employees covered by a collective
8 bargaining agreement in effect on July 1, 2023, this Act shall
9 take effect on the date of termination, renewal, or amendment of
10 the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

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Report Title: Employment; Paid Sick Leave

Description:

Requires employers to provide a minimum amount of paid sick leave to employees and supplemental paid sick leave to employees under certain public health emergency conditions. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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

