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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the criminal justice  
2 research institute was established by Act 179, Session Laws of  
3 Hawaii 2019, within the office of the chief justice to assess  
4 the administrative and technological feasibility of collecting,  
5 aggregating, and reporting on criminal pretrial data for  
6 purposes of establishing a centralized statewide criminal  
7 pretrial justice data reporting and collection system.

8           The legislature further finds that the criminal justice  
9 research institute staff conducted research to determine the  
10 feasibility of creating a statewide reporting system and  
11 identify the most effective and cost-efficient system for the  
12 State. Agencies across the country were interviewed and  
13 researched to identify options for creating a statewide  
14 reporting system. The criminal justice research institute  
15 examined statewide policies, operations, and data sources to map  
16 out necessary statewide data to create such a system. Based on  
17 the results of the criminal justice research institute's



1 research, the legislature finds that the approach most suited to  
2 fulfill the intent of Act 179, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, in  
3 an evidence-based and cost-efficient manner is to extract, link,  
4 and merge data from existing state databases into a centralized  
5 data warehouse. Instead of creating a new database and  
6 duplicating data entry or requesting manual data extractions  
7 from agencies, technological solutions will work with existing  
8 data sources and merge them into a centralized location.

9 In order to assess the feasibility of the technical work  
10 needed across different agency information technology systems,  
11 the criminal justice research institute selected information  
12 technology partners in fall 2022 to develop a technical plan to  
13 document the feasibility of extracting and linking criminal  
14 pretrial data and estimate the costs and timeline of  
15 establishing a statewide reporting system. The legislature  
16 finds it is essential that the criminal justice research  
17 institute continue its partnership with the department of public  
18 safety, judiciary, and Hawaii criminal justice data center to  
19 incorporate the three main statewide sources of criminal  
20 pretrial data. These three sources house the data and  
21 information necessary to calculate and report on criminal



1 pretrial performance metrics in accordance with state law and  
2 evidence-based practices.

3       The legislature recognizes that the creation of the  
4 statewide reporting system is a substantial and complex  
5 undertaking requiring interagency and interbranch collaboration,  
6 strategic planning, and resources to accomplish successfully.  
7 Several key issues in establishing the system were identified,  
8 including combining data from different agencies' databases,  
9 many of which are the result of separate data and information  
10 technology systems; data primarily collected for operational  
11 purposes that must be converted for research; large amounts of  
12 data in text fields that may require a technological solution to  
13 convert it for quantitative analysis; and inconsistent data  
14 definitions across agencies, which prohibits efficient merging  
15 of data. Although technology can create a statewide reporting  
16 system, it will take time and parallel efforts to address these  
17 challenges and improve data entry practices and the quality of  
18 the data. These efforts can occur simultaneously while the  
19 system is developed.

20       The legislature additionally finds that there are critical  
21 strengths with existing criminal pretrial data systems: each



1 agency holds an electronic database containing a wealth of  
2 information critical to the State's criminal pretrial system and  
3 data sources have an identifier for cases or people that will  
4 assist in linking the diverse data sources, thereby creating a  
5 process to merge data into a centralized location. By  
6 leveraging technology to extract and link records, a significant  
7 amount of data collection for the statewide reporting system can  
8 be automated and streamlined. This type of system will produce  
9 more timely metrics and reporting and generate more  
10 comprehensive metrics.

11 The legislature further finds that it is technologically  
12 feasible to create a statewide reporting system. However, this  
13 will only be possible with additional resources, as well as  
14 comprehensive, long-term planning and ongoing collaboration with  
15 the agencies that house pretrial data.

16 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
17 funds to establish a centralized statewide criminal pretrial  
18 justice data reporting and collection system pursuant to state  
19 law.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,550,000 or so much



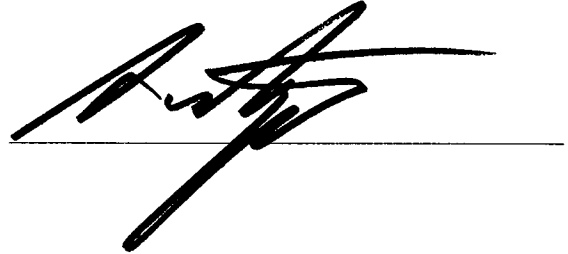
1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
2 \$1,200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
3 year 2024-2025 for the establishment of a centralized statewide  
4 criminal pretrial justice data reporting and collection system  
5 pursuant to section 614-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the judiciary  
7 for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 13 2023



# H.B. NO. 68

**Report Title:**

Criminal Justice Research Institute; Centralized Data System;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to establish a centralized statewide criminal pretrial justice data reporting and collection system pursuant to state law.

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

