HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. ¹⁹²⁷

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INDECENT EXPOSURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that indecent exposure, 2 which is the intentional exposure of a person's genitals to 3 another under circumstances in which the person's conduct is 4 likely to cause affront, is a form of sexual violence. Sexual 5 violence, when perpetrated upon minors, has been correlated with 6 higher levels of depression, guilt, shame, self-blame, eating 7 disorders, somatic concerns, anxiety, dissociative patterns, 8 repression, denial, sexual problems, and relationship problems. 9 The legislature further finds that the existing criminal

10 statute penalizing indecent exposure fails to account for the 11 additional harm and trauma that occurs when a person 12 intentionally exposes the person's genitals to a minor.

13 The purpose of this Act is to raise the criminal penalty 14 for the offense of indecent exposure from a petty misdemeanor to 15 a misdemeanor if the victim is less than sixteen years of age. 16 SECTION 2. Section 707-734, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 17 amended to read as follows:

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1	"\$707-734 Indecent exposure. (1) A person commits the
2	offense of indecent exposure if[$_{ au}$] the person intentionally
3	exposes the person's genitals to $[a]$ another person to whom the
4	[person] <u>actor</u> is not married under circumstances in which the
5	actor's conduct is likely to cause affront.
6	(2) [Indecent] Except as provided in subsection (3),
7	indecent exposure [is] shall be a petty misdemeanor.
8	(3) Indecent exposure shall be a misdemeanor if the victim
9	is less than sixteen years of age. The state of mind
10	requirement for the offense is not applicable to the fact that
11	the victim was less than sixteen years of age. A person is
12	strictly liable with respect to the attendant circumstance that
13	the victim was less than sixteen years of age."
14	SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
15	matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
16	begun before its effective date.
17	SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
19	SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.

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Report Title:

Hawaii Penal Code; Criminal Offense; Indecent Exposure; Less Than Sixteen Years of Age; Strict Liability

Description:

Raises the criminal penalty for the offense of indecent exposure from a petty misdemeanor to a misdemeanor if the victim is less than sixteen years of age. Provides that the state of mind requirement is not applicable to the fact that the victim is less than sixteen years of age and that the actor is strictly liable with respect to the attendant circumstance that the victim was less than sixteen years of age. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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