## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BURIAL SITES.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is necessary to
- 2 reflect the seriousness of the act of disturbing human remains
- 3 from burial sites without consent.
- 4 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to increase the
- 5 penalty for the desecration of burial sites from a misdemeanor
- 6 to a felony for a second or subsequent offense to deter
- 7 potential violators from harming burial sites.
- 8 SECTION 2. Section 6E-72, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 9 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
- 10 "(b) Taking, appropriation, excavation, injury,
- 11 destruction, or alteration of a burial site without permission
- 12 of the department of land and natural resources:
- 13 (1) For the first offense, is a misdemeanor for which a
- 14 fine not to exceed [\$25,000 may] \$10,000 shall be
- imposed  $[\tau]$ ; and
- 16 (2) For a second or subsequent offense, is a felony for
- which a fine not to exceed \$25,000 shall be imposed,

- in addition to any other penalty authorized by chapter
- 2 706 for a [misdemeanor.] felony."
- 3 SECTION 3. 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 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

## Report Title:

State Historic Preservation Division; Burial Sites; Penalties

## Description:

Increases the penalty for the desecration of Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian burial sites from a misdemeanor to a felony for second or subsequent offenses. (SD1)

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