



**GOV. MSG. NO. 1109**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

April 10, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate,  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura  
Speaker, and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on April 10, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

HB994 HD1

RELATING TO THE OFFENSE OF  
PROMOTING PORNOGRAPHY FOR  
MINORS.  
**ACT 009**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green".

Josh Green, M.D.  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE OFFENSE OF PROMOTING PORNOGRAPHY FOR MINORS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the prevention of  
2 sexual exploitation and abuse of children is a government  
3 objective of paramount importance, and this objective extends to  
4 blocking dissemination of pornographic materials to children.  
5 To improve the ability to prosecute those who promote  
6 pornography for minors, Act 244, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024,  
7 specifically allowed the prosecution of the offense of promoting  
8 pornography for minors through undercover operations.

9           The legislature further finds that large-scale undercover  
10 operations have proven to be an effective tool in reducing and  
11 combating offenders who solicit minors to engage in sexual  
12 activities on the Internet. Expeditious charging is crucial  
13 during these large-scale operations. Main charges brought from  
14 these operations, the offenses of electronic enticement of a  
15 child under sections 707-756 and 707-757, Hawaii Revised  
16 Statutes, and the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a  
17 minor under section 712-1209.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, can be



1 instituted by written information. Another major charge  
2 resulting from undercover operations, the offense of promoting  
3 pornography for minors under section 712-1215, Hawaii Revised  
4 Statutes, however, is included in the list of offenses that  
5 cannot be instituted by written information under section 806-  
6 83, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

7 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to enhance the  
8 effectiveness of Act 244, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, by  
9 allowing the offense of promoting pornography for minors to be  
10 instituted by written information.

11 SECTION 2. Section 806-83, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

13 "(a) Criminal charges may be instituted by written  
14 information for a felony when the charge is a class C felony,  
15 except under:

- 16 (1) Section 159-28 (bribery related to the Hawaii Meat  
17 Inspection Act);
- 18 (2) Section 161-28 (bribery related to the Hawaii Poultry  
19 Inspection Act);
- 20 (3) Section 707-712.5 (assault against a law enforcement  
21 officer in the first degree);



- 1 (4) Section 707-716 (terroristic threatening in the first
- 2 degree);
- 3 (5) Section 707-732 (sexual assault in the third degree);
- 4 (6) Section 707-741 (incest);
- 5 (7) Section 707-752 (promoting child abuse in the third
- 6 degree);
- 7 (8) Section 708-880 (commercial bribery);
- 8 (9) Section 709-904.5 (compensation by an adult of
- 9 juveniles for crimes);
- 10 (10) Section 710-1026.9 (resisting an order to stop a motor
- 11 vehicle in the first degree);
- 12 (11) Section 710-1070 (bribery of or by a witness);
- 13 (12) Section 710-1071 (intimidating a witness);
- 14 (13) Section 710-1072.2 (retaliating against a witness);
- 15 (14) Section 710-1073 (bribery of or by a juror);
- 16 (15) Section 710-1075 (jury tampering);
- 17 (16) Section 710-1075.5 (retaliating against a juror);
- 18 (17) Section 711-1106.4 (aggravated harassment by
- 19 stalking);
- 20 (18) Section 711-1110.9 (violation of privacy in the first
- 21 degree);



- 1 (19) Section 712-1208 (promoting travel for prostitution);  
2 (20) Section 712-1209.5 (habitual commercial sexual  
3 exploitation);  
4 [~~(21)~~ ~~Section 712-1215 (promoting pornography for minors)~~;  
5 ~~(22)~~] (21) Section 712-1218 (failure to maintain age  
6 verification records of sexual performers);  
7 [~~(23)~~] (22) Section 712-1218.5 (failure to maintain age  
8 verification records of sexually exploited  
9 individuals); and  
10 [~~(24)~~] (23) Section 712-1219 (failure to affix information  
11 disclosing location of age verification records of  
12 sexual performers)."

13 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
15 begun before its effective date.

16 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



H.B. NO. 994  
H.D. 1

APPROVED this 10th day of April, 2025

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 994, HD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: March 4, 2025  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: **MAR 28 2025**  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate



Carol T. Taniguchi  
Clerk of the Senate