
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPORTS OFFICIALS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
3 read as follows:

4 **"§28- Civil actions; sports officials.** The attorney
5 general may represent a sports official in a civil action in
6 relation to a sports event at which the sports official has
7 been, or has allegedly been, assaulted or threatened while
8 engaged in the lawful discharge of the sports official's duties.
9 For the purposes of this section, "sports official" and "lawful
10 discharge of the sports official's duties" have the same meaning
11 as defined in section 706-605.6."

12 SECTION 2. Section 28-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 **"§28-6 No fee; not to act as attorney.** The attorney
15 general shall not receive any fee or reward from or in behalf of
16 any person or prosecutor, for services rendered in any
17 prosecution or business to which it shall be the attorney



1 general's official duty to attend; nor, except when acting
2 pursuant to section 28-, be concerned as counsel or attorney
3 for either party in any civil action depending upon the same
4 state of facts."

5 SECTION 3. Section 706-605.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsection (2) to read as follows:

7 "(2) For the purposes of this section:

8 "Lawful discharge of the sports official's duty" means the
9 performance of duties of a sports official from the time the
10 sports official arrives at the venue of a sports event and
11 ending when the sports official returns to their residence or
12 business.

13 "Sports event" means any organized amateur or professional
14 athletic contest in the State.

15 "Sports official" means a person at a sports event,
16 including but not limited to a sports event at a public or
17 private school, who enforces the rules of the event, such as an
18 umpire, referee, timer, or scorer, or a person who supervises
19 the participants, such as a coach, or a league or school
20 administrator, regardless of whether the person is paid or
21 provides their services as an unpaid volunteer."



1 SECTION 4. Section 707-710, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (1) to read as follows:

3 "(1) A person commits the offense of assault in the first
4 degree if the person intentionally or knowingly causes:

5 (a) Serious bodily injury to another person; [or]

6 (b) Substantial bodily injury to a person who is sixty
7 years of age or older and the age of the injured

8 person is known or reasonably should be known to the
9 person causing the injury[‐]; or

10 (c) Bodily injury to a sports official who is engaged in
11 the lawful discharge of the sports official's duties.

12 For the purposes of this paragraph, "sports official"
13 and "lawful discharge of the sports official's duties"

14 have the same meaning as defined in section 706-
15 605.6."

16 SECTION 5. Section 707-711, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 **"§707-711 Assault in the second degree.** (1) A person
19 commits the offense of assault in the second degree if the
20 person:





1 education on a contractual basis and engaged in

2 carrying out an educational function;

3 (f) Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to any

4 emergency medical services provider who is engaged in

5 the performance of duty. For the purposes of this

6 paragraph, "emergency medical services provider" means

7 emergency medical services personnel, as defined in

8 section 321-222, and physicians, physician's

9 assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, certified

10 registered nurse anesthetists, respiratory therapists,

11 laboratory technicians, radiology technicians, and

12 social workers, providing services in the emergency

13 room of a hospital;

14 (g) Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to a

15 person employed at a state-operated or -contracted

16 mental health facility. For the purposes of this

17 paragraph, "a person employed at a state-operated or -

18 contracted mental health facility" includes health

19 care professionals as defined in section 451D-2,

20 administrators, orderlies, security personnel,

21 volunteers, and any other person who is engaged in the



1 performance of a duty at a state-operated or -
2 contracted mental health facility;

3 (h) Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to a
4 person who:

5 (i) The defendant has been restrained from, by order
6 of any court, including an ex parte order,
7 contacting, threatening, or physically abusing
8 pursuant to chapter 586; or

9 (ii) Is being protected by a police officer ordering
10 the defendant to leave the premises of that
11 protected person pursuant to section 709-906(4),
12 during the effective period of that order;

13 (i) Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to any
14 firefighter or water safety officer who is engaged in
15 the performance of duty. For the purposes of this
16 paragraph, "firefighter" has the same meaning as in
17 section 710-1012 and "water safety officer" means any
18 public servant employed by the United States, the
19 State, or any county as a lifeguard or person
20 authorized to conduct water rescue or ocean safety
21 functions;





5 [n] Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to a
6 sports official who is engaged in the lawful discharge
7 of the sports official's duties. For the purposes of
8 this paragraph, "sports official" and "lawful
9 discharge of the sports official's duties" have the
10 same meaning as in section 706-605.6;

19 [+] (p) (o) Intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury
20 to any protective services worker who is engaged in
21 the performance of the worker's duties. For purposes



1 of this paragraph, "protective services worker" means
2 any administrator, specialist, social worker, case
3 manager, or aide employed by the department of human
4 services to investigate or provide services in
5 response to reports of child abuse or neglect, or to
6 investigate or provide services in response to reports
7 of abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult.

8 (2) Assault in the second degree is a class C felony."

9 SECTION 6. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
10 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
11 begun before its effective date.

12 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 26 2026



H.B. NO. 2185

Report Title:

Attorney General; Sports Officials; Public Schools; Private Schools; Civil Proceedings; Felony

Description:

Authorizes the Attorney General to represent sports officials in civil proceedings if the sports official has been assaulted or threatened in the course of legally discharging their sports official duties. Makes intentional bodily injury of a sports official engaged in the lawful discharge of the sports official's duties a class B felony. Clarifies that a sports official includes a school or league administrator. Clarifies that a sports official's duties cover sports events at public schools and private schools.

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

