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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE EXPENDITURE CEILING ON THE AUTOMATED VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM SPECIAL FUND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the statewide  
2 automated victim information and notification system,  
3 established under section 353-132, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and  
4 administered by the department of corrections and  
5 rehabilitation's victim notification services office, plays a  
6 vital role in ensuring crime victims are promptly informed of  
7 changes in an offender's custody status. The statewide  
8 automated victim information and notification system provides  
9 real-time notifications to victims and community members  
10 regarding custody changes, parole hearings, and other key  
11 events, and is essential for protecting victims' rights, safety,  
12 and peace of mind. Demand for these services continues to grow,  
13 with victim registrations increasing by 38.9 per cent between  
14 fiscal year 2022-2023 and fiscal year 2024-2025 (from 42,182 to  
15 58,606). The statewide automated victim information and  
16 notification system is funded through the automated victim

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1 information and notification system special fund established  
2 under section 353-136, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

3 The legislature further finds that the current \$600,000  
4 annual expenditure cap on the special fund has become outdated  
5 and limits the victim notification services office's ability to  
6 strengthen victim services, improve system infrastructure, and  
7 support operational needs. Payroll costs continue to rise due  
8 to collective bargaining increases, but the cap prevents the  
9 department of corrections and rehabilitation from adjusting  
10 allocations accordingly. As a result, payroll increases reduce  
11 available operating funds for operations. Operating expenses  
12 have also increased, including contract costs for the system  
13 itself, which rose 9.17 per cent in fiscal year 2025-2026 (from  
14 \$90,636 to \$98,944) and are projected to grow by three per cent  
15 annually in subsequent years. Rent, lease, internet, and  
16 telephone costs have also risen.

17 Looking ahead, if all four authorized positions are filled,  
18 projected expenditures will exceed the current statutory  
19 expenditure ceiling. The automated victim information and  
20 notification system special fund has a cash balance of more than  
21 \$1,500,000. Removing the expenditure cap will ensure the victim  
22 notification services office can sustain operations demands,

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1 support staff salaries, and maintain uninterrupted services  
2 statewide.

3 SECTION 2. Section 353-136, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

5 " (e) The sum total of all moneys expended for development  
6 and operating expenses, including salaries and benefits of  
7 positions as authorized by the legislature, shall not exceed the  
8 special fund ceiling related to the fund established by the  
9 legislature[; provided that the total moneys expended for these  
10 purposes shall not exceed \$600,000 in any one fiscal year]."

11 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

14  
15 INTRODUCED BY: Nadine K. Nahm

16 BY REQUEST  
JAN 26 2026

# H.B. NO. 2289

**Report Title:**

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; The Automated Victim Information and Notification System Special Fund; Expenditure Ceiling

**Description:**

Removes the \$600,000 annual expenditure ceiling on the Automated Victim Information and Notification System Special Fund to address rising program costs and growing victim service demands.

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

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Corrections and Rehabilitation

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXPENDITURE CEILING ON THE AUTOMATED VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM SPECIAL FUND.

PURPOSE: To remove the \$600,000 annual expenditure cap on the Automated Victim Information and Notification System Special Fund to address rising program costs and growing victim service demands.

MEANS: Amend section 353-136(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

JUSTIFICATION: The current expenditure cap on the special fund prevents the department's Victim Notification Services Office from meeting the operational demands of the Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) System, addressing rising costs, and serving the growing number of victims and agencies that rely on timely notifications.

The new SAVIN contract increased by 9.17 percent from \$90,636 to \$98,944 in fiscal year 2025-2026 and will rise by an additional three percent annually in fiscal year 2026-2027 (\$101,813) and fiscal year 2027-2028 (\$104,766). At the same time, the demand for services has surged with victim registrations increasing by 38.9 percent from 42,182 to 58,606 since fiscal year 2022-2023. The expenditure cap also restricts service improvement such as expanding essential outreach, integrating or extending post-conviction services, and improving accessibility for underserved populations.

Impact on the public: The bill would enable the department to meet its obligations and ensure that related agencies statewide

continue to access SAVIN for critical information used to assist victims and community members through the judicial and post-conviction process, including safety planning and support services and ensure reliable, consistent, and uninterrupted access to critical information and services to victims and community members to enhance public safety.

Impact on the department and other agencies:  
The bill would enable the department to meet its obligations under sections 353-132, 353-133, and 353-134, HRS.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: Automated Victim Information and Notification Special Fund.

PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION: PSD900.

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES: The Judiciary, Prosecutors' Offices, Hawaii Paroling Authority, Crime Victim Compensation Commission, as well as other state and federal agencies that rely on offender custodial information.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.