

JAN 22 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DISCLOSURE OF INTIMATE IMAGES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 **"CHAPTER**

5 **UNIFORM CIVIL REMEDIES FOR UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INTIMATE**
6 **IMAGES ACT**

7 **§ -1 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the
8 Uniform Civil Remedies for Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate
9 Images Act.

10 **§ -2 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

11 "Consent" means affirmative, conscious, and voluntary
12 authorization by an individual with legal capacity to give
13 authorization.

14 "Depicted individual" means an individual whose body is
15 shown in whole or in part in an intimate image.

16 "Disclosure" means transfer, publication, or distribution
17 to another person. "Disclose" has a corresponding meaning.



1 "Identifiable" means recognizable by a person other than
2 the depicted individual:

3 (1) From an intimate image itself; or
4 (2) From an intimate image and identifying characteristic
5 displayed in connection with the intimate image.

6 "Identifying characteristic" means information that may be
7 used to identify a depicted individual.

8 "Individual" means a natural person.

9 "Intimate image" means any digital image, photograph, or
10 video that depicts a person in a state of undress; nude as
11 defined in section 712-1210; or engaged in sexual conduct as
12 defined in section 712-1210.

13 "Person" means an individual; estate; business or nonprofit
14 entity; public corporation; government or governmental
15 subdivision, agency, or instrumentality; or other legal entity.

16 **§ -3 Disclosure of intimate images; civil action.** (a)

17 Except as otherwise provided in section -4, a depicted
18 individual who is identifiable and who suffers harm from a
19 person's intentional disclosure or threatened disclosure of a
20 private intimate image without the depicted individual's consent



1 has a cause of action against the person if the person knew or
2 acted with reckless disregard for whether:

3 (1) The depicted individual did not consent to the
4 disclosure;

5 (2) The intimate image was private; and

6 (3) The depicted individual was identifiable.

7 (b) The following conduct by a depicted individual shall
8 not establish by itself that the depicted individual consented
9 to the disclosure of the intimate image which is the subject of
10 an action under this chapter or that the depicted individual
11 lacked a reasonable expectation of privacy:

12 (1) Consent to creation of the image; or

13 (2) Previous consensual disclosure of the image.

14 (c) A depicted individual who does not consent to the
15 sexual conduct or uncovering of the part of the body depicted in
16 an intimate image of the individual shall retain a reasonable
17 expectation of privacy even if the image was created when the
18 individual was in a public place.

19 (d) As used in this section:



1 "Harm" includes physical harm, economic harm, and emotional
2 distress whether or not accompanied by physical or economic
3 harm.

4 "Private" means:

5 (1) Created or obtained under circumstances in which a
6 depicted individual had a reasonable expectation of
7 privacy; or
8 (2) Made accessible through theft, bribery, extortion,
9 fraud, false pretenses, voyeurism, or exceeding
10 authorized access to an account, message, file,
11 device, resource, or property.

12 **§ -4 Liability; exceptions.** (a) A person shall not be
13 liable under this chapter if the person proves that disclosure
14 of, or a threat to disclose, an intimate image was:

15 (1) Made in good faith as part of:
16 (A) Law enforcement activity;
17 (B) A legal proceeding; or
18 (C) Medical education or treatment;
19 (2) Made in good faith in the reporting or investigation
20 of:
21 (A) Unlawful conduct; or



1 (B) Unsolicited and unwelcome conduct;

2 (3) Related to a matter of public concern or public

3 interest; or

4 (4) Reasonably intended to assist the depicted individual.

5 (b) Subject to subsection (c), a defendant who is a

6 parent, legal guardian, or individual with legal custody of a

7 child shall not be liable under this chapter for a disclosure or

8 threatened disclosure of an intimate image of the child.

9 (c) If a defendant asserts an exception to liability under

10 subsection (b), the exception shall not apply if the plaintiff

11 proves the disclosure was:

12 (1) Prohibited by law other than as provided this chapter;

13 or

14 (2) Made for the purpose of sexual arousal, sexual

15 gratification, humiliation, degradation, or monetary

16 or commercial gain.

17 (d) Disclosure of, or a threat to disclose, an intimate

18 image shall not be a matter of public concern or public interest

19 solely because the depicted individual is a public figure.

20 (e) As used in this section:



1 "Child" means an unemancipated individual who is less than
2 eighteen years of age.

3 "Parent" means a biological, foster, or adoptive parent, a
4 parent-in-law, a stepparent, a grandparent, or a grandparent-in-
5 law.

6 **§ -5 Plaintiff's privacy.** In an action under this
7 chapter:

8 (1) The court may exclude or redact from all pleadings and
9 documents filed other identifying characteristics of
10 the plaintiff under applicable state law or procedural
11 rule;

12 (2) A plaintiff to whom paragraph (1) applies shall file
13 with the court and serve on the defendant a
14 confidential information form that includes the
15 excluded or redacted plaintiff's name and other
16 identifying characteristics; and

17 (3) The court may make further orders as necessary to
18 protect the identity and privacy of a plaintiff.

19 **§ -6 Disclosure of intimate images; civil remedies.** (a)
20 In an action under this chapter, a prevailing plaintiff may
21 recover:



1 (1) The greater of:

2 (A) Economic and noneconomic damages proximately
3 caused by the defendant's disclosure or
4 threatened disclosure, including damages for
5 emotional distress whether or not accompanied by
6 other damages; or
7 (B) Statutory damages not to exceed \$10,000 against
8 each defendant found liable under this chapter
9 for all disclosures and threatened disclosures by
10 the defendant of which the plaintiff knew or
11 reasonably should have known when filing the
12 action or which became known during the pendency
13 of the action; provided that in determining the
14 amount of statutory damages under this
15 subparagraph, consideration shall be given to the
16 age of the parties at the time of the disclosure
17 or threatened disclosure, the number of
18 disclosures or threatened disclosures made by the
19 defendant, the breadth of distribution of the
20 image by the defendant, and other exacerbating or
21 mitigating factors;



1 (2) An amount equal to any monetary gain made by the
2 defendant from disclosure of the intimate image;
3 (3) An amount equal to any actual costs incurred by the
4 plaintiff in retrieving and requesting removal of
5 distributed images; and
6 (4) Punitive damages as allowed under any state law other
7 than as provided in this chapter.

10 (1) Reasonable attorney's fees and costs; and
11 (2) Additional relief, including injunctive relief.

12 (c) This chapter shall not affect a right or remedy
13 available under any state law other than as provided in this
14 chapter.

15 **§ -7 Statute of limitations.** (a) An action brought by
16 a depicted individual under section -3(a) for unauthorized
17 disclosure, where the depicted individual was an adult on the
18 date of disclosure, may not be brought later than eight years
19 from the date the disclosure was discovered or should have been
20 discovered with the exercise of reasonable diligence.



1 (b) An action brought by a depicted individual under
2 section -3(a) for a threat to disclose, where the depicted
3 individual was an adult on the date of the threat to disclose,
4 may not be brought later than eight years from the date of the
5 threat to disclose.

6 (c) Subject to section 657-1.8(a)(2), an action brought by
7 a depicted individual under section -3(a), where the depicted
8 individual was a minor on the date of the disclosure or threat
9 to disclose, may not be brought later than thirty-two years
10 after the eighteenth birthday of the depicted individual or five
11 years after the date the depicted individual discovers or
12 reasonably should have discovered that psychological injury or
13 illness occurring after the depicted individual's eighteenth
14 birthday was caused by the unauthorized disclosure, whichever
15 occurs later.

16 **§ -8 Construction.** (a) This chapter shall be construed
17 to be consistent with the Communications Decency Act of 1996,
18 title 47 United States Code section 230.

19 (b) This chapter shall not be construed to alter the law
20 on sovereign immunity.



1 **§ -9 Uniformity of application and construction.** In
2 applying and construing this uniform act, consideration shall be
3 given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect
4 to its subject matter among states that enact it.

5 **§ -10 Severability.** If any provision of this chapter or
6 the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held
7 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
8 applications of the chapter which can be given effect without
9 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the
10 provisions of this chapter are severable."

11 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
12 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
13 begun before its effective date.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY: Karl Rhoads



S.B. NO. 2448

Report Title:

Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate Images; Civil Remedies

Description:

Enacts the Uniform Civil Remedies for Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate Images Act.

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

