

JAN 28 2026

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4 annual expenditure cap on the special fund has become outdated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.

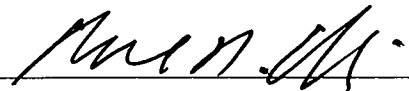
3 SECTION 2. Section 353-136, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

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:



16 BY REQUEST

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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.