

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1244

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

June 24, 2026

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

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

This is to inform you that on June 24, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 1548, H.D. 1, S.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO SENTENCING.
ACT 143

Mahalo,

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

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SENTENCING.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 706, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§706- Limitation on term of imprisonment for
5 nonviolent offenses punishable by up to or not exceeding one
6 year; sentence modification. (1) Notwithstanding any other law
7 to the contrary, any offense that is:

8 (a) Not a crime of violence; and

9 (b) Punishable under state law by a term of imprisonment
10 up to or not exceeding one year,

11 shall be punishable by a term of imprisonment not to exceed
12 three hundred sixty-four days.

13 (2) A person who was sentenced to a misdemeanor offense

14 that is not a crime of violence before the effective date of

15 this Act may submit an application to the trial court that

16 entered the judgment of conviction to reconsider the sentence to



1 reflect that the maximum possible penalty for the offense is
2 three hundred sixty-four days.

3 (3) For the purposes of this section, "crime of violence"
4 has the same meaning as defined in section 134-1."

5 SECTION 2. Section 706-663, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 **"§706-663 Sentence of imprisonment for misdemeanor and**
8 **petty misdemeanor. (1) After consideration of the factors set**
9 **forth in sections 706-606 and 706-621, the court may sentence a**
10 **person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor or a petty**
11 **misdemeanor to imprisonment for a definite term to be fixed by**
12 **the court and not to exceed [~~one year~~] three hundred sixty-four**
13 **days in the case of a misdemeanor or thirty days in the case of**
14 **a petty misdemeanor[-]; provided that if the person has been**
15 **convicted of a misdemeanor that is a crime of violence, the**
16 **court may sentence the person to imprisonment for a definite**
17 **term to be fixed by the court and not to exceed one year.**

18 (2) For the purposes of this section, "crime of violence"
19 has the same meaning as defined in section 134-1."

20 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



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



H.B. NO. 1548
H.D. 1
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 24th day of June , 2026



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 1548, HD 1, SD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives

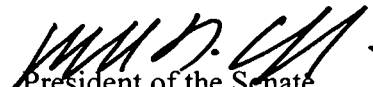


Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026.


President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate