

ACT 32

S.B. NO. 273

A Bill for an Act Relating to School Absences and Reporting.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The fact that a great deal of juvenile crime occurs during unauthorized absences from school offers an opportunity to prevent at least a part of juvenile crime. While we cannot turn our schools into prisons, attendance can be taken throughout the school day and absences reported to parents immediately. This would help to reduce such absences and contribute toward the enforcement and effectiveness of the truancy laws. Furthermore, making attendance records available to police can serve as a deterrent and would assist the police in more swiftly apprehending those juveniles who commit offenses while absent from school.

The purpose of this Act is to provide that attendance records shall be made available to authorized police officers upon request.

SECTION 2. Chapter 298, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§298- Attendance records; availability to authorized police officers. Dates of attendance of a student shall be made available to authorized police officers upon request."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.*

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

(Approved April 29, 1981.)

*The text has been edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5, authorizing omission of the brackets, bracketed material, and underscoring.