

ACT 168

S.B. NO. 80

A Bill for an Act Relating to Juveniles.

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

SECTION 1. Section 571-84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§571-84 Records. (a) The court shall maintain records of all cases brought before it. In proceedings under section 571-11, and in paternity proceedings under chapter 584, the following records shall be withheld from public inspection: the court docket, petitions, complaints, motions, and other papers filed in any case; transcripts of testimony taken by the court; and findings, judgments, orders, decrees, and other papers other than social records filed in proceedings before the court. The records other than social records shall be open to inspection by the parties and their attorneys, by an institution or agency to which custody of a minor has been transferred, by an individual who has been appointed guardian; with consent of the judge, by persons having a legitimate interest in the proceedings from the standpoint of the welfare of the minor; and, pursuant to order of the court or the rules of court, by persons conducting pertinent research studies, and by person, institutions, and agencies having a legitimate interest in the protection, welfare, or treatment of the minor.

(b) Reports of social and clinical studies or examinations made pursuant to this chapter shall be withheld from public inspection, except that information from such reports may be furnished, in a manner determined by the judge, to persons and governmental and private agencies and institutions conducting pertinent research studies or having a legitimate interest in the protection, welfare, and treatment of the minor.

(c) No information obtained or social records prepared in the discharge of official duty by an employee of the court shall be disclosed directly or indirectly to anyone other than the judge or others entitled under this chapter to receive such information, unless and until otherwise ordered by the judge.

(d) Except for the immediate use in a criminal case, any photograph or fingerprint taken of any child shall not be used or circulated for any other purpose and shall be subject to all rules and standards provided for in section 571-74.

(e) The records of any police department, and of any juvenile crime prevention bureau thereof, relating to any proceedings authorized under section 571-11 shall be confidential and shall be open to inspection only by persons whose official duties are concerned with the provisions of this chapter, except as provided in subsection (f) herein or as otherwise ordered by the court.

(f) Any such police records concerning traffic accidents in which a child or minor coming within section 571-11(1) is involved shall, after the termination of any proceeding under section 571-11(1) arising out of any such accident, or in any event after six months from the date of the accident, be available for inspection for by the parties directly concerned in the accident, or their duly licensed attorneys acting under written authority signed by either party. Any person who may sue because of death resulting from any such accident shall be deemed a party concerned.

(g) In all proceedings concerning violations other than traffic violations, in which a minor coming within section 571-11(1) is involved and after the termination of any proceeding under section 571-11(1) arising out of any such violation in which the minor has been adjudicated a law violator, the name and address of the minor, and, when practicable, the name of the parent or guardian shall be disclosed pursuant to the order of the court or the Hawaii Family Court Rules, to the parties directly concerned with the alleged violation, or their duly licensed attorneys acting under written authority signed by either party. For the purpose of this section "parties directly concerned" means any person who may sue because of death, injury, or damage resulting from any violation other than a traffic violation in which a minor coming within section 571-11(1) is involved.

The minor, and, when practicable, the minor's parents or custodian, and the attorney of the minor shall be notified when the minor's name and address have been released.

(h) Evidence given in proceedings under section 571-11(1) or (2) shall not in any civil, criminal, or other cause be lawful or proper evidence against the child or minor therein involved for any purpose whatever, except in subsequent proceedings involving the same child under section 571-11(1) or (2)."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.¹

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

(Approved June 4, 1983.)

Note

1. No bracketed material.