

ACT 359

H.B. NO. 849

A Bill for an Act Relating to Domestic Abuse.

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

SECTION 1. Section 586-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§586-3 Order for protection. (a) There shall exist an action known as a petition for an order for protection in cases of domestic abuse.

(b) A petition for relief under this chapter may be made by any family or household member on his or her own behalf or on behalf of a family or household member who is a minor, who is incapacitated as defined in section 560:5-101(2), or who is physically unable to go to the appropriate place to complete or file the petition.

(c) A petition for relief shall be in writing and upon forms provided by the court and shall allege that a recent past act or acts of abuse may have occurred, or that the threats of abuse make it probable that acts of abuse may be imminent[:], or that extreme psychological abuse or malicious property damage is imminent; and shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath or a statement made under penalty of perjury stating the specific facts and circumstances from which relief is sought.

(d) The family court shall designate an employee or appropriate nonjudicial agency to assist the person in completing the petition.”

SECTION 2. Section 586-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“[[§586-1]] Definitions. As used in this chapter:

“Domestic abuse” means:

- (1) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the threat of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault, extreme psychological abuse or malicious property damage between family or household members; or

- (2) Any act which would constitute an offense under section 709-906, or under part V or VI of chapter 707 committed against a minor family or household member by an adult family or household member.

"Extreme psychological abuse" means an intentional or knowing course of conduct directed at an individual that seriously alarms or disturbs consistently or continually bothers the individual, and that serves no legitimate purpose; provided that such course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to suffer extreme emotional distress.

"Malicious property damage" means an intentional or knowing damage to the property of another, without his consent, with an intent to thereby cause emotional distress.

"Family and household members" means spouses or former spouses, parents, children, persons related by consanguinity, and persons jointly residing or formerly residing in the same dwelling unit."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

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

(Approved July 2, 1987.)