

A Bill for an Act Relating to Job Reference Liability.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 663, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**“§663 -Providing information to prospective employers in good faith.**

(a) An employer that provides to a prospective employer information or opinion about a current or former employee’s job performance is presumed to be acting in good faith and shall have a qualified immunity from civil liability for disclosing the information and for the consequences of the disclosure.

(b) The good faith presumption under subsection (a) shall be rebuttable upon a showing by a preponderance of the evidence that the information or opinion disclosed was:

- (1) Knowingly false; or
- (2) Knowingly misleading.

(c) Nothing in this section shall affect rights, obligations, remedies, liabilities, or standards of proof under chapters 89, 92F, 368, and 378.’’

SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.<sup>1</sup>

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

(Approved July 15, 1998.)

**Note**

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.