
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MINORS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§346- Consent to emergency shelter and related
5 services. (a) A provider may provide emergency shelter and
6 related services, including transportation services, to a minor
7 who consents to the emergency shelter and related services if
8 the provider reasonably believes that:

9 (1) The minor understands the significant benefits and
10 limits of the emergency shelter and related services
11 and can communicate an informed consent; and

12 (2) The emergency shelter and related services are for the
13 minor's benefit.

14 (b) A minor may consent to emergency shelter and related
15 services if:

16 (1) The provider has made a good faith effort to contact
17 the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian to



- 1 obtain consent for the emergency shelter and related
2 services, but has been unable to do so;
- 3 (2) The provider has made contact with the minor's parent,
4 legal guardian, or custodian, but the minor's parent,
5 legal guardian, or custodian refuses to give consent
6 for emergency shelter and related services; or
- 7 (3) The minor has refused to provide contact information
8 for the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian.
- 9 (c) The minority status of the minor and any contrary
10 provisions of law notwithstanding:
- 11 (1) Any consent given by the minor under this section
12 shall be valid and binding; and
- 13 (2) The minor shall be deemed to have the same legal
14 capacity to act, and the same legal obligations with
15 regard to the giving of an informed consent,
16 as though the minor has reached the age of majority and is of
17 mental capacity sufficient to execute a consent.
- 18 (d) The consent given under this section shall not be
19 subject to later disaffirmance by reason of the minor's
20 minority.
- 21 (e) Any provider who renders emergency shelter and related
22 services to a minor under this section, after determining in



1 good faith that the minor has met the requirements for giving an
2 informed and valid consent pursuant to subsections (a), (b), and
3 (c), shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability based
4 on the provider's determination; provided that a provider whose
5 determination pursuant to subsections (a), (b), and (c) is the
6 result of the provider's gross negligence or wilful or wanton
7 acts or omissions shall be liable for damages suffered by the
8 minor resulting from the provider's gross negligence or wilful
9 or wanton acts or omissions.

10 (f) If a minor consents to receive emergency shelter and
11 related services, the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of
12 the minor shall not be liable for the legal obligations
13 resulting from the emergency shelter and related services
14 provided by a provider. Notwithstanding any other law to the
15 contrary, a parent, legal guardian, or custodian whose consent
16 has not been obtained or who has no prior knowledge that a minor
17 has consented to the provision of emergency shelter and related
18 services shall not be liable for the costs incurred by virtue of
19 the minor's consent.

20 (g) No provider shall be held liable for serving a minor
21 without parental, guardian, or custodial consent if the provider
22 can demonstrate that it has made a good faith effort to contact



1 the minor's parent, guardian, or custodian to obtain consent,
2 but was unable to contact the minor's parent, guardian, or
3 custodian, as provided in subsection (b) (1); was able to contact
4 the minor's parent, guardian, or custodian but was unable to
5 obtain the contacted person's consent, as provided in subsection
6 (b) (2); or was unable to obtain contact information for the
7 minor's parent, guardian, or custodian, as provided in
8 subsection (b) (3). The provider who renders emergency shelter
9 and related services to a minor shall document in writing the
10 efforts made to contact the minor's parent, legal guardian, or
11 custodian.

12 (h) The provider shall report to the department any
13 findings that the minor is subject to imminent harm, has been
14 harmed, or is subject to threatened harm. If applicable, the
15 provider shall also make a report to the department or the
16 police department of child abuse or neglect under section
17 350-1.1.

18 (i) For purposes of this section:

19 "Emergency shelter and related services" includes
20 short-term residential care on an emergency basis that includes
21 voluntary housing, with private shower facilities, beds, and
22 meals; assistance with reunification with family or a legal



1 guardian when required or appropriate; referral to safe housing;
2 individual, family, and group counseling; assistance in
3 obtaining clothing; access to medical and dental care and mental
4 health counseling; education and employment services;
5 recreational activities; case management, advocacy, and referral
6 services; independent living skills training; and aftercare
7 services and transportation.

8 "Minor" means a person less than eighteen years of age.

9 "Provider" means any child placing organization, child
10 caring institution, or foster boarding home authorized by the
11 department under section 346-17 to receive or place minor
12 children for care and maintenance and to provide related
13 services, health care, or supplies to these minors."

14 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

16



Report Title:

Minors; Emergency Shelter; Consent; Keiki Caucus

Description:

Allows a child services provider to provide emergency shelter and related services to a minor under certain circumstances. Effective July 1, 2050. (SD2)

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