
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BAIL.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 804, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§804- Unsecured bail. (a) After an amount of bail is
5 determined by a justice or judge pursuant to section 804-9, a
6 defendant in custody may petition the court for unsecured bail.

7 Upon a showing that:

8 (1) Securing the bail bond or obtaining a surety or
9 sureties to secure the bail bond pursuant to section
10 804-11.5 would result in significant financial
11 hardship; and

12 (2) The continued incarceration of the defendant would
13 jeopardize the defendant's ability to maintain
14 employment, remain enrolled in any educational or
15 training program, care for a dependent, continue
16 medical or therapeutic treatment, or maintain housing;



1 the court may order the defendant released upon the execution of
2 an unsecured financial bond for all or part of the bail amount
3 by the defendant and any additional obligors as may be required
4 by the court, upon the deposit of cash or other security as
5 described in section 804-11.5 for any remaining bail amount not
6 covered by the unsecured financial bond, and subject to any
7 other conditions of release that will reasonably assure the
8 appearance of the defendant in court as required and protect the
9 public.

10 (b) In the event that a defendant fails to appear in court
11 as required or breaches any other condition of release, the
12 court shall take appropriate steps to collect the amount of the
13 unsecured financial bond from the defendant or any additional
14 obligors originally required by the court.

15 (c) In granting or denying a petition for unsecured bail,
16 the court may consider:

- 17 (1) The defendant's:
- 18 (A) Employment status and history;
 - 19 (B) Family relationships, specifically the nature and
20 extent of those relationships;
 - 21 (C) Past and present residences;



- 1 (D) Character and reputation;
- 2 (E) Ties to the community;
- 3 (F) Financial circumstances; and
- 4 (G) Prior criminal record, if any, and any prior
- 5 failures to appear in court;
- 6 (2) The agreement of any person to assist the defendant to
- 7 appear in court when required and to satisfy the
- 8 conditions of release;
- 9 (3) The results of an empirical and validated pretrial
- 10 risk assessment;
- 11 (4) The offense charged and any potential sentence; and
- 12 (5) Any other facts the court finds relevant to the
- 13 defendant's likelihood to appear in court and satisfy
- 14 the conditions of release."

15 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
17 begun before its effective date.

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

20



Report Title:

OHA Package; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Courts; Unsecured Bail

Description:

Authorizes a defendant in custody to petition a court for unsecured bail. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

