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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOSPITAL EMERGENCY COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR SEXUAL  
ASSAULT VICTIMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Rape is the most under-reported violent crime.  
2     In the aftermath of rape, victims find themselves dealing with a  
3     host of reproductive and sexual health issues. The physical and  
4     emotional trauma suffered by victims is compounded by the  
5     possibility of an unwanted pregnancy as a result of the rape.  
6     The average rate of pregnancy resulting from rape is between  
7     five and eight per cent with an estimated thirty-two thousand  
8     rape-related pregnancies occurring each year in the United  
9     States. However, the Department of Justice National Crime  
10    Victimization Surveys indicate that over half of all rapes are  
11    not reported to the police.

12           Emergency contraception is not an abortion pill, nor does  
13    it cause any abortive process to take place. Emergency  
14    contraception is a safe and effective means of preventing  
15    pregnancy after a sexual assault. In fact, the provision of  
16    emergency contraception to sexual assault victims is the most  
17    widely recognized and accepted standard of care for sexual



1 assault victims. The American Medical Association and the  
2 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists have stated  
3 that sexual assault victims should be informed about and  
4 provided emergency contraception. However, a 2010 survey of  
5 emergency facilities in Hawaii revealed a lack of clear policy  
6 on the issue.

7 The purpose of this Act is to ensure that sexual assault  
8 victims are provided information about and access to emergency  
9 contraception when receiving emergency medical care at Hawaii's  
10 hospitals.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
13 to read as follows:

14 **"PART . COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS**

15 **§321-A Definitions.** As used in this part, unless the  
16 context otherwise requires:

17 "Compulsion" means absence of consent, or a threat, express  
18 or implied, that places a person in fear of public humiliation,  
19 property damage, or financial loss.

20 "Department" means the department of health unless  
21 otherwise specified in this part.



1 "Emergency contraception" means one or more prescription  
2 drugs used separately or in combination that are:

- 3 (1) Used postcoitally within a recommended amount of time;  
4 (2) Used for the purposes of preventing pregnancy; and  
5 (3) Approved by the United States Food and Drug  
6 Administration.

7 "Hospital" means any institution with an organized medical  
8 staff, regulated under sections 321-11(10) and 321-14.5, that  
9 admits patients for inpatient care, diagnosis, observation, and  
10 treatment.

11 "Sexual assault" means vaginal penetration without the  
12 person's consent, by compulsion or strong compulsion.

13 "Sexual assault victim" means a person who alleges or is  
14 alleged to have been sexually assaulted and as a result of the  
15 sexual assault presents as a patient at a hospital.

16 "Strong compulsion" means the use of or attempt to use one  
17 or more of the following to overcome a person:

- 18 (1) A threat, express or implied, that places a person in  
19 fear of bodily injury to the person or another person,  
20 or in fear that the person or another person will be  
21 kidnapped;  
22 (2) A dangerous instrument; or



1 (3) Physical force.

2 **§321-B Compassionate care.** (a) Any hospital at which a  
3 female sexual assault victim presents for emergency services  
4 shall:

5 (1) Provide any female sexual assault victim with  
6 medically and factually accurate and unbiased written  
7 and oral information about emergency contraception;

8 (2) Orally inform each female sexual assault victim of the  
9 option to receive emergency contraception at the  
10 hospital;

11 (3) When medically indicated, offer emergency  
12 contraception to each female sexual assault victim;

13 (4) Dispense a complete course of emergency contraception  
14 to each female sexual assault victim who accepts or  
15 requests it; and

16 (5) Ensure that providers who may prescribe or administer  
17 emergency contraception shall be trained to provide a  
18 female sexual assault victim with medically and  
19 factually accurate and unbiased written and oral  
20 information about emergency contraception and sexual  
21 assault treatment options and access to emergency  
22 contraception.



1 (b) No hospital shall deny a female sexual assault victim  
2 emergency contraception based on a refusal to undergo a forensic  
3 examination or a refusal to report the alleged sexual assault to  
4 law enforcement.

5 (c) No hospital shall be required to dispense emergency  
6 contraception to a female sexual assault victim who has been  
7 determined to be pregnant through the administration by the  
8 hospital staff of a pregnancy test approved by the United States  
9 Food and Drug Administration.

10 (d) If private insurance is not or cannot be utilized for  
11 payment, the cost of any emergency contraception dispensed  
12 pursuant to this part shall be paid by the department of human  
13 services.

14 **§321-C Enforcement; administrative penalties.** (a) The  
15 department may set, charge, and collect administrative fines and  
16 recover administrative fees and costs, including attorney's fees  
17 and costs, resulting from a violation of this part or any rule  
18 adopted under this part.

19 (b) The department shall:

20 (1) Establish a policy and procedures to monitor  
21 compliance with this part, including a complaint  
22 process;



1 (2) Respond to any complaint received by the department  
2 concerning noncompliance by a hospital with the  
3 requirements of section 321-B; and

4 (3) Provide written notice to any hospital that the  
5 department determines is in violation of this part or  
6 any rule adopted under this part, including notice of  
7 an opportunity to take corrective action.

8 (c) Any hospital that violates this part or any rule  
9 adopted under this part after receiving written notice and an  
10 opportunity to take corrective action pursuant to subsection  
11 (b) (3) shall be fined not more than \$1,000 for each separate  
12 offense.

13 (d) All enforcement processes shall comply with section  
14 321-20.

15 (e) Sanctions under this section shall not be issued for  
16 violations occurring before July 1, 2014.

17 **§321-D Rules.** The department may adopt rules under  
18 chapter 91 for the purposes of this part."

19 SECTION 3. In codifying the new sections added by section  
20 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute  
21 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
22 the new sections in this Act.



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



**Report Title:**

Hospital Emergency Compassionate Care; Emergency Contraception

**Description:**

Establishes a new part in chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to ensure that female sexual assault victims are provided with medically and factually accurate and unbiased information about and access to emergency contraception when receiving emergency medical care at Hawaii's hospitals. (HB411 HD2)

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

