
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DEFERRED ACCEPTANCE PLEAS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that pedestrian deaths
2 caused by negligent drivers are a longstanding problem on
3 Hawaii's roadways. Of particular concern are cases involving
4 negligent homicide in the third degree, where a person operating
5 a vehicle causes the death of another person through simple
6 negligence.

7 The legislature finds that when a deferred acceptance plea
8 is granted, the charge is dismissed and the defendant is
9 discharged if the defendant is able to comply with the terms of
10 probation-like court supervision for a period not to exceed a
11 year. In these situations, the defendant is not considered to
12 have been convicted. A defendant who has been discharged can
13 apply to have the charge expunged from the defendant's record
14 one year after dismissal of the charge.

15 The purpose of this Act is to protect the public by
16 preventing the use of deferred acceptance of guilty pleas and
17 deferred acceptance of nolo contendere pleas in cases involving



1 defendants charged with an offense involving the killing of
2 another person.

3 SECTION 2. Section 853-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "**§853-4 Chapter not applicable; when.** This chapter shall
6 not apply when:

7 (1) The offense charged involves the [~~intentional,~~
8 ~~knowing, reckless, or negligent~~] killing of another
9 person;

10 (2) The offense charged is:

11 (A) A felony that involves the intentional, knowing,
12 or reckless bodily injury, substantial bodily
13 injury, or serious bodily injury of another
14 person; or

15 (B) A misdemeanor or petty misdemeanor that carries a
16 mandatory minimum sentence and that involves the
17 intentional, knowing, or reckless bodily injury,
18 substantial bodily injury, or serious bodily
19 injury of another person;

20 (3) The offense charged involves a conspiracy or
21 solicitation to intentionally, knowingly, or



- 1 recklessly kill another person or to cause serious
2 bodily injury to another person;
- 3 (4) The offense charged is a class A felony;
- 4 (5) The offense charged is nonprobationable;
- 5 (6) The defendant has been convicted of any offense
6 defined as a felony by the Hawaii [~~Penal Code~~] penal
7 code or has been convicted for any conduct that if
8 perpetrated in this State would be punishable as a
9 felony;
- 10 (7) The defendant is found to be a law violator or
11 delinquent child for the commission of any offense
12 defined as a felony by the Hawaii [~~Penal Code~~] penal
13 code or for any conduct that if perpetrated in this
14 State would constitute a felony;
- 15 (8) The defendant has a prior conviction for a felony
16 committed in any state, federal, or foreign
17 jurisdiction;
- 18 (9) A firearm was used in the commission of the offense
19 charged;
- 20 (10) The defendant is charged with the distribution of a
21 dangerous, harmful, or detrimental drug to a minor;



1 (11) The defendant has been charged with a felony offense
2 and has been previously granted deferred acceptance of
3 guilty plea status for a prior offense, regardless of
4 whether the period of deferral has already expired;

5 (12) The defendant has been charged with a misdemeanor
6 offense and has been previously granted deferred
7 acceptance of guilty plea status for a prior felony,
8 misdemeanor, or petty misdemeanor for which the period
9 of deferral has not yet expired;

10 (13) The offense charged is:

- 11 (A) Escape in the first degree;
- 12 (B) Escape in the second degree;
- 13 (C) Promoting prison contraband in the first degree;
- 14 (D) Promoting prison contraband in the second degree;
- 15 (E) Bail jumping in the first degree;
- 16 (F) Bail jumping in the second degree;
- 17 (G) Bribery;
- 18 (H) Bribery of or by a witness;
- 19 (I) Intimidating a witness;
- 20 (J) Bribery of or by a juror;
- 21 (K) Intimidating a juror;
- 22 (L) Jury tampering;



- 1 (M) Promoting prostitution in the first degree;
- 2 (N) Promoting prostitution in the second degree;
- 3 (O) Abuse of family or household members;
- 4 (P) Sexual assault in the second degree;
- 5 (Q) Sexual assault in the third degree;
- 6 (R) A violation of an order issued pursuant to
- 7 chapter 586;
- 8 (S) Promoting child abuse in the second degree;
- 9 (T) Promoting child abuse in the third degree;
- 10 (U) Electronic enticement of a child in the first
- 11 degree; or
- 12 (V) Electronic enticement of a child in the second
- 13 degree;
- 14 (14) The defendant has been charged with:
 - 15 (A) Knowingly or intentionally falsifying any report
 - 16 required under chapter 11, part XIII with the
 - 17 intent to circumvent the law or deceive the
 - 18 campaign spending commission; or
 - 19 (B) Violating section 11-352 or 11-353; or
- 20 (15) The defendant holds a commercial driver's license and
- 21 has been charged with violating a traffic control law,



1 other than a parking law, in connection with the
2 operation of any type of motor vehicle.

3 The court may adopt by rule other criteria in this area."

4 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
5 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
6 begun, before its effective date.

7 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Deferred Acceptance Pleas; Negligent Homicide

Description:

Prohibits the use of deferred acceptance of guilty pleas or deferred acceptance of nolo contendere pleas by defendants charged with an offense involving the killing of another person.
(HB510 HD1)

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

