

■ **WHISTLEBLOWERS' PROTECTION ACT**

TERMS: Employers in Hawaii are prohibited from firing, threatening or otherwise discriminating against a worker in the terms and conditions of employment, because the worker reported — or planned or attempted to report — a violation or suspected violation of a federal, state or local law. It is also illegal for an employer to discriminate against a worker because the worker is asked to participate in an investigation, hearing or inquiry held by a public body or court of law.

ENFORCEMENT: A worker who alleges a violation of this law may file a civil lawsuit against the employer involved for damages or other relief, using a private attorney or public legal service provider. A suit of this nature must be filed within 2 years after the alleged violation occurred.