

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

290

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 399  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 399 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT JUDGES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii State Bar Association; Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association; and Hawaii Financial Services Association.

Your Committee finds that the population and legal issues facing the City and County of Honolulu have significantly increased since the last District Court judge was authorized over forty years ago. Authorizing an additional District Court judge will allow the District Court to better manage court dockets, be more responsive to the needs of the community, increase capacity in the rural courts, and develop or expand specialized court calendars.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

2025-1283 HB399 HD1 HSCR HMSO



- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 399, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 399, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary &  
Hawaiian Affairs,



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DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Thirty-third Legislature

HSCR 290

Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 399	Committee Referral: JHA, FIN	Date: 1/30/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	✓			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au	✓			
4. COCHRAN, Elle				✓
5. HASHEM, Mark J.				✓
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin	✓			
7. PERRUSO, Amy A.	✓			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	✓			
9. TODD, Chris	✓			
10. GARCIA, Diamond	✓			
11. SHIMIZU, Garner M.	✓			
TOTAL (11)	9	0	0	2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				