

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

724

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 560
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. 560 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Judiciary for services contracted with community-based organizations that deliver essential services, streamline judicial processes, and support the Judiciary's capacity to effectively meet the needs of vulnerable households.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Ku'ikahi Mediation; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; The Legal Clinic; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; Parents and Children Together; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.; EPIC 'Ohana; Aloha United Way; Child & Family Service; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Partners In Development Foundation; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii; YMCA of Honolulu; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; YWCA; Community Alliance on Prisons;

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and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that community-based organizations play a vital role in delivering essential services that strengthen access to justice, including legal aid, mediation, case management, and behavioral interventions. This measure will provide increased funding for the Judiciary for services contracted with community-based organizations that will assist low-income and vulnerable residents in navigating the legal process and avoiding long-term consequences that result without representation or assistance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

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. 560, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 560, 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,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



