

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 151

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 2025

RE: S.B. No. 304  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B.  
No. 304 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish  
positions and appropriate funds for Adult Services Probation of  
the First Circuit Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Judiciary and one member of the Kalihi Palama  
Neighborhood Board.

Your Committee finds that in June 2024, the American  
Probation and Parole Association published national standards for  
community supervision which indicated that the optimal caseload  
distribution according to risk level is: intensive, twenty to  
one; moderate to high risk, fifty to one; and low risk, two  
hundred to one. One study highlighted the benefits of following  
these national standards, showing that recidivism fell by thirty  
percent where agencies redistributed caseloads to ensure smaller  
caseloads of higher-risk individuals. Although the Adult Client  
Services Branch has made efforts to align with the national  
standards recommended by the American Probation and Parole  
Association, these standards are unattainable with existing  
staffing at the Adult Client Services Branch. This measure will



allow the Adult Client Services Branch to move towards the recommended national best practice standards for community supervision.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings;
- (2) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for one full-time equivalent secretary position;
- (3) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts for operating expenses and an unspecified number of positions;
- (4) Inserting an effective date of April 23, 2057, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that that this measure, as amended, contains an unspecified appropriation amount. Should your Committee on Ways and Means choose to deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider inserting an appropriation amount of:

- (1) \$739,440 to establish permanent positions in Adult Services Probation of the First Circuit Court, including:
  - (A) \$73,836 each for eight full-time equivalent (8.0 FTE) probation officer positions;
  - (B) \$50,880 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) social worker assistant position; and
  - (C) \$48,936 each for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) clerk positions; and
- (2) \$140,000 for operating expenses for Adult Services Probation of the First Circuit Court.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 304, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary,




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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 304</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">JDC, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">1/30/25</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended <small>2312</small></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments <small>2311</small></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold <small>2310</small></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit <small>2313</small></div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	—	—	—
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Distribution:</b>            Original            File with Committee Report         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Yellow            Clerk's Office         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Pink            Drafting Agency         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Goldenrod            Committee File Copy         </div> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes