STAND. COM. REP. NO. 372

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 8 2011

RE: S.B. No. 946

S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui President of the Senate Twenty-Sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2011 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 946 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:

- (1) Establish the Access to Justice Trust Fund under the Judiciary as an endowment to be administered by a nonprofit entity;
- (2) Require investment of the principal of the Trust Fund; and
- (3) Authorize the disbursement of interest earned from the investment of the Trust Fund to fund legal services for the poor, indigent, and other vulnerable populations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Domestic Violence Action Center and the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that legal services providers lack adequate funding and attorneys to meet the need for affordable legal services for vulnerable populations in the State. This measure creates the Access to Justice Trust Fund to provide funding to nonprofit legal services organizations to assist with

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the legal services needs of the poor, indigent, and other vulnerable populations.

As this measure moves forward, your Committee requests that subsequent committees consider the measure's financial implications and examine the trust fund aspects of this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to allow for further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 946, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 946, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

CLAYTON HEE, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary and Labor JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:* Committee Referral: Date:					
5B 946	301	NW A	M 6	2/15/11	/
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
HEE, Clayton (C)					
SHIMABUKURO, Maile (VC)					
GABBARD, Mike		-			
IHARA, Jr., Les					
SLOM, Sam					
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TOTAL		2	0		2
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

*Only one measure per Record of Votes