

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **840**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2015

RE: S.B. No. 144
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 144, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURY TRIAL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase the threshold value in controversy requirement for a jury trial in a civil case from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from one individual

Your Committee finds that the statutory threshold value in controversy required for a jury trial in a civil case has been \$5,000 for over twenty-five years. Since this limit was adopted, the value of the dollar has risen due to inflation, and as a result, more cases in Hawaii's court system have been able to demand jury trials. Jury trials require more of the Judiciary's time and resources than non-jury trials. Your Committee believes that raising the threshold value in controversy required for a jury trial in a civil case will result in lower expenditures by the Judiciary to resolve these matters and a more efficient state court system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 144, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

SB144 SD1 SSCR LRB 15-1896.doc



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB144 SD1</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">JDL, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/27/15</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
SLOM, Sam			✓	
TOTAL	10	0	1	0
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; text-align: center;">M. D. W. -</div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes