
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO JUDGES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 571-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) [~~In addition to the district courts established under~~
4 ~~section 604-1, there may be established]~~ The chief justice of
5 the supreme court may establish in each of the judicial circuits
6 of the State a district family court with the powers and under
7 the conditions herein set forth which shall be styled as
8 follows:

9 (1) For the first judicial circuit: The district family
10 court of the first circuit.

11 (2) For the second judicial circuit: The district family
12 court of the second circuit.

13 (3) For the third judicial circuit: The district family
14 court of the third circuit.

15 (4) For the fifth judicial circuit: The district family
16 court of the fifth circuit."



1 SECTION 2. Section 603-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "§603-3 First circuit court judges. [~~Effective July 1,~~
4 ~~1992, the]~~ The circuit court of the first circuit shall consist
5 of twenty-five judges, [~~who shall be styled as first, second,~~
6 ~~third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth,~~
7 ~~eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth,~~
8 ~~seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty first,~~
9 ~~twenty second, twenty third, twenty fourth, and twenty fifth~~
10 ~~judge, respectively.] each of whom shall be styled as a judge of
11 the circuit court of the first circuit."~~

12 SECTION 3. Section 603-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "§603-4 Other circuits; judges. The circuit court of the
15 fifth circuit shall consist of two judges, [~~who shall be styled~~
16 ~~as first and second judge, and]~~ each of whom shall be styled as
17 a judge of the circuit court of the fifth circuit. The circuit
18 court of the second circuit shall consist of four judges, [~~who~~
19 ~~shall be styled as first, second, third, and fourth judge, and]~~
20 each of whom shall be styled as a judge of the circuit court of
21 the second circuit. The circuit court of the third circuit



1 shall consist of four judges, [~~who shall be styled as first,~~
2 ~~second, third, and fourth judge, and~~] each of whom shall be
3 styled as a judge of the circuit court of the third circuit."

4 SECTION 4. Section 604-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

6 "[+] (b) [+] There shall be appointed one or more district
7 judges for each judicial circuit. The district court of the
8 first circuit shall consist of fourteen judges [~~, who shall be~~
9 ~~styled as first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh,~~
10 ~~eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and~~
11 ~~fourteenth judge, respectively]~~. One of the district judges
12 shall hear landlord-tenant and small claims matters [~~7~~]; provided
13 that when in the discretion of the chief justice of the supreme
14 court the urgency or volume of cases so requires, the chief
15 justice may authorize the judge to substitute for or act in
16 addition to or otherwise in place of any other district judge of
17 the district court of the first circuit. The district court of
18 the second circuit shall consist of [~~three~~] four judges [~~, who~~
19 ~~shall be styled as first, second, and third judge,~~
20 ~~respectively]~~. The district court of the third circuit shall
21 consist of three judges [~~, who shall be styled as first, second,~~



1 ~~and third judge, respectively]~~. The district court of the fifth
2 circuit shall consist of two judges [~~who shall be styled as~~
3 ~~first and second judge, respectively]~~. The chief justice may
4 designate a judge in each circuit as the administrative judge
5 for the circuit."

6 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Courts; Judges; Circuit Court; District Court; Family Court

Description:

Authorizes the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to establish district family courts. Increases the number of judges of the District Court of the Second Circuit from three to four judges. Makes housekeeping amendments to laws relating to the composition of judges of the circuit courts, district courts, and family courts. (SB276 HD1)

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