A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DIVORCE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 580-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 1 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows: 2 Exclusive original jurisdiction in matters of 3 annulment, divorce, and separation, subject to section 603-37 as 4 to change of venue, and subject also to appeal according to law, 5 is conferred upon the family court of the circuit in which the 6 applicant [has been] is domiciled [or has been physically 7 8 present for a continuous period of at least three months next preceding the application therefor, except as provided in 9 subsection (b). No absolute divorce from the bond of matrimony 10 shall be granted for any cause unless either party to the 11 marriage has been domiciled or has been physically present in 12 the State for a continuous period of at least six months next 13 preceding the application therefor, except as provided in 14 subsection (b).] at the time the application is filed. A person 15 who may be residing on any military or federal base, 16 installation, or reservation within the State or who may be 17

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- 1 present in the State under military orders shall not thereby be
- 2 prohibited from meeting the requirements of this section. The
- 3 family court of each circuit shall have jurisdiction over all
- 4 proceedings relating to the annulment, divorce, and separation
- 5 of civil unions entered into in this State or unions recognized
- 6 as civil unions in this State in the same manner as marriages."
- 7 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 1 2020

H.B. NO. 2379

Report Title:

Annulment, Divorce, and Separation; Physical Presence; Residency Requirement

Description:

Grants exclusive original jurisdiction in matters of annulment, divorce, and separation and other certain cases to the family court of the circuit in which an applicant is domiciled at the time the application is filed. Repeals the requirement that a person be domiciled or physically present in the State for a continuous period of at least three months before filing for divorce. Repeals the requirement that a person be domiciled or physically present in the State for a continuous period of at least six months before completing a divorce.

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