THE SENATE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019 STATE OF HAWAII **S.B. NO.** ¹²⁴ s.d. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE.

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

SECTION 1. Section 41D-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 amended to read as follows:

3 "§41D-3 Adjustment of claims against the State. (a) The
4 attorney general may review any claim. The attorney general may
5 refer claims to the comptroller for informal resolution.

6 (b) All claims against the State that are within the
7 purview of section 41D-8 shall be reviewed in the first instance
8 by the comptroller for informal resolution as provided in this
9 section.

10 (c) The comptroller may compromise or settle a claim
11 within the purview of section 41D-8 for an amount not exceeding
12 [\$15,000,] \$25,000 and the comptroller may pay the claim without
13 review by the attorney general.

(d) The comptroller may compromise or settle and pay a
tort claim not within the purview of section 41D-8 for [\$10,000
or less] an amount not exceeding \$25,000 without the necessity
of court approval [, and the comptroller may pay the claim].

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(e) Upon referral by the comptroller, the attorney
 general, in the attorney general's discretion, shall make
 determinations of whether a claim would or would not be within
 the purview of section 41D-8 for purposes of subsections (c) and
 (d).

6 (f) If the tort claim cannot be resolved informally as set
7 forth in subsections (c) and (d), the comptroller promptly shall
8 inform the attorney general.

9 (g) All of the efforts of the comptroller or the
10 comptroller's delegate under this section shall be "compromise
11 negotiations" within the meaning of rule 408, Hawaii Rules of
12 Evidence, as set forth in section 626-1.

(h) Claims compromised or settled under this section shallbe paid from the state risk management revolving fund."

15 SECTION 2. Section 41D-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is16 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

17 "(f) The comptroller shall prepare, for each fiscal year, 18 a report of all claims arbitrated, compromised, or settled [for 19 \$10,000 or less] and paid from the state risk management 20 revolving fund[-] as provided in section 41D-3. The report 21 shall be submitted to the legislature twenty days prior to the

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commencement of the regular session next succeeding the year for
 which the report is made."

3 SECTION 3. Section 662-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

5 "(b) Claims arbitrated, compromised, or settled by the attorney general for [\$10,000 or less] an amount not exceeding 7 \$25,000 shall be paid from the state risk management revolving 8 fund. Claims arbitrated, compromised, or settled by the 9 attorney general for more than [\$10,000] \$25,000 shall be paid 10 only after funds are appropriated by the legislature for the 11 payment of those claims."

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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Report Title: Claims Against the State; Risk Management Fund;

Description:

Increases the Comptroller's settlement authority for tort and auto claims to \$25,000. (SD1)

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