### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS.

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

1	PART I
2	SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a
3	category of authorized, secular wedding and civil union
4	practitioners to be known as "civil celebrants", thereby
5	ensuring equal treatment of religious and secular wedding and
6	civil union practitioners regarding the rite of marriage.
7	PART II
8	SECTION 2. Section 572-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9	amended to read as follows:
10	"§572-12 By whom solemnized. (a) A license to solemnize
11	marriages may be issued to, and the marriage rite may be
12	performed and solemnized by [any]:
13	(1) Any minister, priest, or officer of any religious
14	denomination or society who has been ordained or is
15	authorized to solemnize marriages according to the
16	usages of [such] the denomination or society[, or
17	<del>any</del> ] <u>;</u>

# H.B. NO. 248

1	(2) Any religious society not having clergy but providing
2	solemnization in accordance with the rules and customs
3	of that society[ <del>, or any</del> ];
4	(3) Any justice or judge or magistrate, active or retired
5	of a state or federal court in the State[7]; or
6	(4) Any civil celebrant,
7	upon presentation to [such] the person or society solemnizing
8	the marriage of a license to marry, as prescribed by this
9	chapter. [Such] The person or society solemnizing the marriage
10	may receive the price stipulated by the parties or the
11	gratification tendered.
12	(b) As used in this section, "civil celebrant" means a
13	member of a secular or non-religious organization who is
14	authorized by the organization to solemnize marriages."
15	SECTION 3. Section 572B-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16	amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
17	"(b) Any judge or retired judge, including a federal judge
18	or judge of another state who may legally join persons in
19	[chapter 572] a marriage or [a] civil union, may solemnize a
20	civil union. Any clergy, minister, priest, rabbi, or officer o
21	any religious denomination or society who has been ordained or

## H.B. NO. 248

- 1 is authorized to solemnize civil unions according to the usages
- 2 of [such] the denomination or society, or any religious society
- 3 not having clergy but providing solemnization in accordance with
- 4 the rules and customs of that society, may solemnize a civil
- 5 union. Any civil celebrant, as defined in section 572-12, may
- 6 solemnize a civil union."
- 7 PART III
- 8 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 1 2021

### H.B. NO. 248

### Report Title:

Marriages; Civil Unions; Solemnizations; Wedding Performers; Civil Celebrants

#### Description:

Authorizes members of secular or non-religious organizations to solemnize marriages and civil unions.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.