A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DISTRICT COURTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 604-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows: 2 "(a) Except as otherwise provided, the district courts 3 4 shall have jurisdiction in all civil actions where the debt, 5 amount, damages, or value of the property claimed does not exceed [\$40,000,] \$60,000, except in civil actions involving 6 7 summary possession or ejectment, in which case the district 8 court shall have jurisdiction over any counterclaim otherwise 9 properly brought by any defendant in the action if the counterclaim arises out of and refers to the land or premises 10 11 the possession of which is being sought, regardless of the value 12 of the debt, amount, damages, or property claim contained in the 13 counterclaim. Attorney's commissions or fees, including those 14 stipulated in any note or contract sued on, interest, and costs, 15 shall not be included in computing the jurisdictional amount. 16 Subject to subsections (b) and (c), jurisdiction under this 17 subsection shall be exclusive when the amount in controversy, so

- 1 computed, does not exceed \$10,000. The district courts shall
- 2 also have original jurisdiction of suits for specific
- 3 performance when the fair market value of such specific
- 4 performance does not exceed \$20,000 and original jurisdiction to
- 5 issue injunctive relief in residential landlord-tenant cases
- 6 under chapter 521."
- 7 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- $oldsymbol{8}$ and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2022

H.B. NO. 2222

Report Title:

District Courts; Claim Limit

Description:

Increases the monetary threshold for claims over which the district courts have jurisdiction from \$40,000 to \$60,000.

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