

ACT 78

S.B. NO. 1043

A Bill for an Act Relating to Awarding of Interest in Civil Cases.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this bill is to allow trial judges to exercise reasonable discretion in awarding interest in civil cases.

SECTION 2. Title 36, Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**“Sec. 36- Awarding interest.** In awarding interest in civil cases, the judge is authorized to designate the commencement date to conform with the circumstances of each case, provided that the earliest commencement date in cases arising in tort, may be the date when the injury first occurred, and in cases arising by breach of contract, it may be the date when the breach first occurred.”

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.\*

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved May 18, 1979.)

---

\*The text has been edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5, authorizing omission of the brackets, bracketed material, and underscoring.