HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 28

HOUSE RESOLUTION

OPPOSING A SPLIT OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT.

WHEREAS, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth 1 Circuit has appellate jurisdiction over the United States 2 District Courts in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, 3 Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and the territorial courts 4 of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands; and 5 6 WHEREAS, since 2002, repeated efforts have been made in 7 both Houses of the United States Congress to pass legislation 8 that would split the Ninth Circuit into two separate Circuit 9 Courts of Appeal; and 10 11 WHEREAS, the most recent proposal, found in H.R. No. 4241, 12 and passed by the United States House of Representatives would 13 create a Ninth Circuit covering California, Hawaii, Guam, and 14 the Northern Mariana Islands, and a new Twelfth Circuit covering 15 Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, and Arizona; 16 and 17 18 WHEREAS, although the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has 19 the largest caseload of any United States Circuit Court of 20 Appeals, it continues to effectively manage its growing caseload 21 by instituting a variety of administrative efficiencies; and 22 23 WHEREAS, dividing the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals would 24 25 create administrative disruption and additional expense; and 26 27 WHEREAS, an overwhelming majority of the judges on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals support keeping the appellate 28 circuit intact; and 29 30 WHEREAS, in the absence of proof that the Ninth Circuit 31 Court of Appeals is not operating effectively, and in the 32 33 absence of consensus among the bench, bar, and public of the

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Ninth Circuit that division of the Court is necessary; now, 1 therefore, 2 3 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 4 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 5 Session of 2007, that the President of the United States, the 6 United States Congress, and all the state Legislatures are 7 respectfully urged to oppose a split of the United States Court 8 of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and to keep the United States 9 Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit intact in view of the 10 concerns expressed in this Resolution; and 11 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 13 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, 14 the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of 15 the United States House of Representatives, Hawaii's 16 congressional delegation, and to each of the presiding officers 17 18 of the legislative bodies of each state. 19 20 21 OFFERED BY: Belatt (irk Cardnell) HR LRB 07-0232.doc

FEB 2 1 2007