
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY OF THE CREATION OF A FOURTH CIRCUIT COURT TO
BE LOCATED AT THE KAPOLEI COURT COMPLEX.

1 WHEREAS, according to The State of Hawaii Data Book 2006,
2 approximately 876,156 persons resided on the island of Oahu in
3 2000, which represents approximately seventy per cent of the
4 State's entire population; and

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6 WHEREAS, all residents of Oahu are served by the first
7 judicial circuit, which includes twenty-five Circuit Court
8 judges; and

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10 WHEREAS, although each neighbor island county has a much
11 smaller population than Oahu, each county comprises an
12 additional, separate judicial circuit: the county of Maui, with
13 128,241 residents, comprises the second judicial circuit with
14 four Circuit Court judges; the county of Hawaii, with 148,677
15 residents, comprises the third judicial circuit with four
16 Circuit Court judges; and the county of Kauai, with 58,463
17 residents, comprises the fifth judicial circuit with two Circuit
18 Court judges; and

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20 WHEREAS, in contrast, the 366,984 residents of Leeward
21 Oahu, Central Oahu, and the North Shore area of Oahu do not have
22 a dedicated judicial circuit; and

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24 WHEREAS, according to fiscal year 2005-2006 court
25 statistics, the first judicial circuit had 5,128 of the
26 statewide total of 10,446 bench trials, which is almost as many
27 as the other three judicial circuits combined; and

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29 WHEREAS, during that same period, nearly sixty-five per
30 cent of the three hundred twelve jury trials demanded statewide
31 were committed to the first judicial circuit; and

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33 WHEREAS, a new Judiciary complex in Kapolei has been funded
34 by the Legislature through Act 110, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005,
35 and Act 169, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007; and



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WHEREAS, Kapolei is designated under city planning as the "second city" of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, locating a new Judiciary complex in Kapolei conforms with this designation and implements an intent to provide a full range of Circuit Court services in closer proximity to residents of Leeward Oahu, Central Oahu, and the North Shore area of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the Kapolei Court Complex presents an opportunity to establish a new judicial circuit to serve residents of that area; now, therefore; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the Judiciary is requested to conduct a study to identify the funding, personnel, equipment, and supplies needed to create a fourth judicial circuit to be located at the Kapolei Court Complex to serve the residents of the Waialua, Wahiawa, Waianae, and Ewa districts as identified under section 4-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judiciary is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice and the Chief Clerk of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and the Administrative Director of the Courts.

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OFFERED BY:

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H.R. NO. 140


Karen Anderson

MAR 07 2008

