



Judicial Selection Commission — THE JUDICIARY • STATE OF HAWAII

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*Rosemary Fazio, Chair
Philip Hellreich, Vice Chair
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Sheri Sakamoto*

TESTIMONY OF THE JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008

On the Following Measure:

H.B. NO. 2693, RELATING TO THE JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION.

Before the:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Date: Thursday, February 7, 2008

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: State Capitol, Room 325

Testifier: Rosemary Fazio, Chair of the Judicial Selection Commission

Rosemary Fazio
Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Oshiro, and members of the Committee.

The Judicial Selection Commission supports this bill. The purpose of this bill is to provide a separate appropriation to the Judicial Selection Commission in a separate budget as required by Article VI, Section 4 of the Hawaii Constitution which provides that "[t]he legislature shall provide for the staff and operating expenses of the judicial selection commission in a separate budget." The past practice of embedding the Commission's appropriation within the Judiciary's budget does not satisfy the Hawaii Constitution's requirement of a separate budget. This bill also amends certain statutory provisions in the Hawaii Revised Statutes to allow the Commission to use services of Executive Branch agencies, such as the Department of Accounting and General Services, to administer its funds.

The Commission is seeking an appropriation of \$94,283 for fiscal year 2008-2009, which covers the staffing and operation costs of the Commission. The Commission employs one full-time employee. The other expenses include travel costs for neighbor island commissioners and other office expenses. The Commission urges your support of this bill.

000109



**TESTIMONY OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 2693 RELATING TO THE JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Thursday, February 7, 2008 **TIME:** 5:30 PM

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 325

Deliver to: Committee Clerk, Room 302, 5 copies

TESTIFIER(S): RUSSELL A. SUZUKI, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Waters and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Attorney General supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to provide a separate budget for the Judicial Selection Commission as required by article VI, section 4 of the Hawai'i Constitution which provides that "[t]he legislature shall provide for the staff and operating expenses of the judicial selection commission in a separate budget," and to amend certain statutory provisions to facilitate the Commission's management of the appropriation by allowing the Commission to utilize services from Executive Branch Departments, primarily the Department of Accounting and General Services, to administer its funds.

The Commission is seeking an appropriation of \$94,283 for fiscal year 2008-2009, which is intended to cover the staffing and operation costs of the Commission. The present staff of the Commission consists of one full-time employee. Other expenses of the Commission include travel for neighbor island commissioners and other office expenses. We urge your support of this measure.

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