



Testimony to the Twenty -Fifth State Legislature, 2009 Session
House Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
The Honorable Ken Ito, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 12, 2009, 2:05 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

by
Tom Mick
Policy and Planning Department Head

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 298, Relating to Emergency Appropriation for Electricity Payments for Judiciary Facilities Statewide.

Purpose: To provide an emergency appropriation of \$1,854,425 in general funds to pay for increases in electricity costs for FY 2009 for Judiciary facilities statewide.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary strongly urges your support of House Bill No 298, which reflects a request for an emergency appropriation to pay for unexpected increases in electricity costs for Judiciary managed facilities statewide. As local utility companies are dependent upon oil as the primary source of fuel for electricity, the high world oil prices directly contributed to this shortfall, especially considering that Judiciary consumption has remained flat or even decreased. Our initial request for the \$1.85 million for FY 2009 was computed based on last year's fuel costs and the prices that were in effect at the time of development of our budget request. Since that time, fuel prices have dropped significantly and we have six months of price data for FY 2009. Accordingly, based on this latest data, we are amending our request to \$1,104,497 for FY 2009, a decrease of almost \$750,000 from our initial request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.