

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 14, 2014

RE: H.B. No. 2182
H.D. 2

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 2182, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ACCESS TO JUSTICE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to create the Hawaii Justice League Program to provide loan repayment assistance on behalf of eligible lawyers that pursue public interest work in Hawaii.

The Hawaii Access to Justice Commission, Filipino Law Students Association and Students for Public Outreach and Civic Education at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice, Ho'ala Aina Kuponu, UNITED HERE Local 5, and numerous concerned individuals submitted testimony in support of the measure. The Student Bar Association and Student Bar Association's Working Group on Access to Justice, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa supported this bill with amendments. The Department of Budget and Finance and the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii at Manoa, submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing a cap on the maximum loan repayment amount to be paid per participant per year at \$35,000 to be adjusted



annually for inflation based on the consumer price index;

- (2) Requiring the adjusted maximum loan repayment amount to be published annually on the William S. Richardson School of Law website, and requiring the Dean of the School of Law to include the amount in the annual report to the Legislature;
- (3) Deleting employment with the federal government from the definition of "public interest work";
- (4) Consolidating the sections that establish the Hawaii Justice League Program and establish the Hawaii Justice League Loan Repayment Assistance Program under one section for clarity;
- (5) Removing the provision that exempted the William S. Richardson School of Law from the public notice and public hearing requirements in establishing rules for administering the program; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2182, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2182, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



