



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Monday, February 24, 2020, 12:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

by
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WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 2118, Relating to Discretionary Transfers to the Supreme Court.

Purpose: Allows child custody appeals to be transferred from the Intermediate Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court, except in cases brought under the Child Protective Act.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports this bill as written.

The stated mission of the family court is to provide a fair, speedy, economical, and accessible forum for the resolution of matters involving families and children. The proposed legislation does not include appeals from family court cases involving the termination of parental rights, because the supreme court already has an expedited process in place for those cases. With regard to other child custody matters, litigants presently have to wait until the Intermediate Court of Appeals issues a decision and then file an application for certiorari with the supreme court. The Judiciary believes the implementation of Senate Bill No. 2118 will help the Judiciary meet the stated mission of the family court by offering litigants in child custody appeals, other than those involving termination of parental rights, the opportunity to bypass the Intermediate Court of Appeals and expedite the resolution of the appeal by applying for a transfer to the supreme court.



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Thank you for allowing the Judiciary submit testimony in support of this bill..