

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1268 -22

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 , 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2392
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Judiciary to purchase civil legal services for low- and moderate-income persons.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Human Services; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Community Services; Hawaii Justice Foundation; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; The Legal Clinic; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that legal services can be prohibitively expensive for low- and moderate-income persons. However, there are several nonprofit and volunteer organizations in the State that provide quality legal services to these persons. This

2022-2394 SB2392 HD1 HSCR HMSO



measure helps to ensure that legal services are available to persons who need them but lack the resources to pay for them.

Your Committee also finds that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Office of Community Services testified that it has administered funding from the Legislature to provide legal services similar to this measure in the past.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the expending agency for the appropriated funds from the Judiciary to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Community Services;
- (2) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2222, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2392, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,


MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>SB2392, SD2</i>	Committee Referral: <i>JHA, FIN</i>	Date: <i>3-17-22</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	✓			
2. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z. (VC)	✓			
3. ICHIYAMA, Linda	✓			
4. KOBAYASHI, Dale T.				✓
5. LoPRESTI, Matthew S.	✓			
6. LOWEN, Nicole E.				✓
7. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
8. NAKAMURA, Nadine K.	✓			
9. TAKUMI, Roy M.	✓			
10. TOKIOKA, James Kunane				✓
11. WARD, Gene	✓			
TOTAL (11)	<i>8</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align:center; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <i>[Signature]</i>				
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