



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Tel: (808) 586-0554
email: state_procurement_office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>

TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
JANUARY 31, 2024, 2:00 P.M.

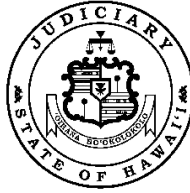
HOUSE BILL 2234
RELATING TO CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 2234. The State Procurement Office (SPO) recommends the following revision to Section 2, page 1, lines 13 to 17, and page 2, lines 1 to 2.

“SECTION 2. (a) ~~Notwithstanding Chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or any other law to the contrary, t~~he judiciary shall establish a civil legal services pilot program to provide civil legal services at no cost to eligible parties. In accordance with chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, The judiciary shall contract with the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii, or other nonprofit legal organizations, to administer the pilot program.”

The SPO testifies that the selection of qualified nonprofit organization(s) should be in accordance with chapter 103D to ensure fair, open competition and to prevent favoritism, collusion, or fraud in awarding of contracts. This also ensures oversight, accountability, and transparency in the procurement and contracting process which is vital to good government.

Thank you.



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Thirty-Second Legislature, 2024 Regular Session

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

by
Rodney A. Maile
Administrative Director of the Courts

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 2234, Relating to Civil Legal Services.

Purpose: Requires and appropriates moneys for the Judiciary to develop a 3-year civil legal services pilot program to provide civil legal services at no cost to eligible parties.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports the intent of House Bill No. 2234, which would appropriate funds from the general fund for a civil legal services pilot program for certain persons who have been sentenced to probation. Civil legal service providers provide critical and essential legal services to the most vulnerable persons in our community.

The Judiciary recommends that reference to specific civil legal service providers in the bill be removed to comply with State procurement rules. Furthermore, we respectfully request that any appropriations for this bill not supplant the Judiciary's existing funding and current budget requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2234.

HB-2234

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 1:39:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 1/31/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimmy I	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure because civil legal services should be provided free of charge regardless of a persons backround and makes the State of Hawaii equitable and fair.