

THE SENATE  
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

[COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY](#)

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 30, 2024  
TIME: 9:45 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL  
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

*The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.*  
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

[SB 2240](#)

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

Requires the Office of Elections to file an application with Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc. (ERIC), by 1/1/2025, for the State to be admitted as a member of the organization. Requires the Office of Elections to share with each county the information and services made available by ERIC pursuant to the State's membership agreement with the organization. Requires the Office of Elections and each county office that administers elections to use information and services made available by ERIC to verify their respective voter registration rolls. Makes an appropriation.

JDC, WAM

[SB 2319](#)

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO INCREASE THE MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE FOR STATE JUSTICES AND JUDGES.

Proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory retirement age for justices and judges from 70 to 75 years.

JDC, WAM

[SB 2332](#)

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE.

Requires the Judicial Council to conduct a comprehensive review of the Hawaii Penal Code and to recommend proposed changes. Requires the Judicial Council to appoint an advisory committee to assist in the review, and allows the Council to also appoint a reporter and other staff as necessary. Requires the advisory committee to report to the Legislature. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation.

JDC, WAM

<p><a href="#"><u>SB 2375</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a></p>	<p>RELATING TO JUDGES FOR THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT.</p> <p>Establishes one additional district court judgeship in the First Circuit.</p>	<p>JDC, WAM</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>SB 2376</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a></p>	<p>RELATING TO COMPENSATION FOR COURT-APPOINTED REPRESENTATION.</p> <p>Increases the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel and guardian ad litem in family court proceedings. Appropriates moneys. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025.</p>	<p>JDC, WAM</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>SB 2377</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a></p>	<p>RELATING TO COMPENSATION FOR COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL.</p> <p>Increases the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel in criminal proceedings. Appropriates funds. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025.</p>	<p>JDC, WAM</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>SB 2385</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a></p>	<p>PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 3 OF THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO PLACE PROCEDURAL RESTRICTIONS ON THE TIMING OF JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS.</p> <p>Proposes an amendment to the state constitution to place procedural restrictions on the timing of judicial appointments and confirmations. Establishes a window between September 1 and November 30 during which the judicial selection commission may not present a list of nominees to the Governor or Chief Justice. Provides that if multiple judicial vacancies occur between regular sessions of the Legislature, the Senate shall be called into no more than 2 special sessions to consent to a judicial appointment.</p>	<p>JDC, WAM</p>
<p><a href="#"><u>SB 2521</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a></p>	<p>RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER.</p> <p>Appropriates moneys for 4.0 FTE deputy public defender positions within the Office of the Public Defender (BUF151) and requires that one of the positions be assigned to the family court section.</p>	<p>JDC, WAM</p>

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov), to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **2 minutes** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov). You can also visit their website at <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you require other auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearing process (i.e., interpretive services (oral or written) or ASL interpreter), or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee at [JDCcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDCcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov) at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 587-7211.

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Senator Karl Rhoads  
Chair