

JAN 15 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT JUDGES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 604-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§604-1 Judicial circuits; district judges; sessions.**

4 [+] (a) [+] There shall be established in each of the judicial
5 circuits of the State a district court with the powers and under
6 the conditions herein set forth, which shall be styled as
7 follows:

8 (1) For the First Judicial Circuit: The District Court of
9 the First Circuit.

10 (2) For the Second Judicial Circuit: The District Court
11 of the Second Circuit.

12 (3) For the Third Judicial Circuit: The District Court of
13 the Third Circuit.

14 (4) For the Fifth Judicial Circuit: The District Court of
15 the Fifth Circuit.

16 [+] (b) [+] There shall be appointed one or more district
17 judges for each judicial circuit. The district court of the



1 first circuit shall consist of [~~fourteen~~] fifteen judges, who
2 shall be styled as first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth,
3 seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth,
4 [~~and~~] fourteenth, and fifteenth judge, respectively. One of the
5 district judges shall hear landlord-tenant and small claims
6 matters, provided that when in the discretion of the chief
7 justice of the supreme court the urgency or volume of cases so
8 requires, the chief justice may authorize the judge to
9 substitute for or act in addition to or otherwise in place of
10 any other district judge of the district court of the first
11 circuit. The district court of the second circuit shall consist
12 of three judges, who shall be styled as first, second, and third
13 judge, respectively. The district court of the third circuit
14 shall consist of three judges, who shall be styled as first,
15 second, and third judge, respectively. The district court of
16 the fifth circuit shall consist of two judges who shall be
17 styled as first and second judge, respectively. The chief
18 justice may designate a judge in each circuit as the
19 administrative judge for the circuit.

20 [+] (c) [+] The district courts shall hold sessions at such
21 places in their respective circuits and as often as the




1 respective district judges deem essential to the promotion of
2 justice."

3 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

6

INTRODUCED BY: 
By Request



S.B. NO. 266

Report Title:

Judiciary Package; District Court Judges; First Circuit

Description:

Establishes 1 additional district court judgeship in the First Circuit.

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