



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

Testimony to the Thirty-Third Legislature, 2025 Regular Session

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

by

Rodney A. Maile

Administrative Director of the Courts

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 1045, Making Emergency Appropriations for Law Enforcement Personnel Costs

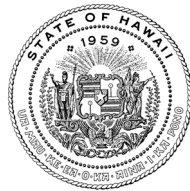
Purpose: Makes emergency appropriations for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Judiciary for payroll and fringe benefits of affected Department of Law Enforcement personnel.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary strongly supports this bill which seeks to appropriate general funds to cover payroll and fringe benefit costs for law enforcement personnel which were not covered by Section 3 of Act 164, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2023, as amended by Act 230, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2024; and Section 3 of Act 70, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2023, as amended by Act 233, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2024.

The Judiciary is conferring with the Department of Budget and Finance regarding whether the appropriation pertaining to Department of Law Enforcement deputies who serve the Judiciary should be appropriated to the Department of Budget and Finance, for consistent calculation of fringe benefits among other DLE employees and general-funded employees.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1045

February 12, 2025
2:00 p.m.
Room 325 and Videoconference

MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT
PERSONNEL COSTS

The Department of Budget and Finance supports this bill with proposed amendments by inserting in the necessary appropriation dollar amounts and providing the necessary dollar amounts and percentage by which the FY 25 appropriations in this bill would exceed the FY 25 expenditure ceiling.

House Bill No. 1045 makes emergency appropriations to the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) and the Judiciary for transfer payments to the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) for payroll costs of sheriffs.

Section 3 of Act 164, SLH 2023, as amended by Act 230, SLH 2024, appropriated general funds to DAGS for FY 25 for transfer payments to DLE for payroll costs of sheriffs. Similarly, Section 3 of Act 70, SLH 2023, as amended by Act 233, SLH 2024, appropriated general funds for FY 25 to the Judiciary for transfer payments to DLE for payroll costs of sheriffs. While appropriations out of the general fund of the State of Hawai'i exclude fringe benefit costs, fringe benefits must be included if an appropriation from a non-general fund is used to fund positions. Because these

aforementioned appropriations did not include fringe benefits, a critical funding shortage exists, and additional funds must be appropriated to cover fringe benefit costs.

We recommend that the following dollar amounts be inserted into the bill:

- In Section 3 of the bill (page 2, line 11), \$2,480,509; and
- In Section 4 of the bill (page 2, line 19), \$4,673,616.

We also suggest the expenditure ceiling declaration in Section 5 (page 3, lines 4 through 12) be amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 5. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and 37 93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 has already been exceeded by \$8,551,795, or 1 per cent. In addition, the appropriations contained in this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further exceeded by \$7,154,125, or 1 per cent. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the appropriations made in this Act are necessary to serve the public interest and to meet the needs addressed by this Act.”

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
DIRECTOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1045
RELATING TO EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS
Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 2:00 PM
State Capitol Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) strongly supports House Bill 1045. This bill makes emergency appropriations for fiscal year 2024-2025 to cover payroll and fringe benefits for DLE personnel through interdepartmental transfers from the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Judiciary.

The interdepartmental transfer mechanism proposed in this bill aligns with proper fiscal management practices while ensuring that critical law enforcement services remain uninterrupted. This funding is essential for maintaining our operational capacity and fulfilling our mandate to provide the highest level of law enforcement service for the public, state employees, and state properties.

The two emergency appropriations totaling **\$7,154,125** in general funds for fiscal year 2024-2025 to cover payroll and fringe benefits costs and increase the ceiling for law enforcement personnel of the Department of Law Enforcement: (1) \$2,480,509 for the Department of Accounting and General Services and (2) \$4,673,616 for the Judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this bill.