

ACT 164

H.B. NO. 929

A Bill for an Act Relating to Limitation of Actions.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 657-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§657-8 Limitation of action for damages based on construction to improve real property. (a) No action to recover damages for any injury to property, real or personal, or for bodily injury or wrongful death, arising out of any deficiency or neglect in the planning, design, [suretyship, manufacturing and supplying of materials,] construction, supervision and administering of construction, and observation of construction relating to an improvement to real property shall be commenced more than two years after the cause of action has accrued, but in any event not more than ten years after the date of completion of the improvement.

(b) This section shall not apply to actions for damages against [the owner or any other person] owners or other persons having an interest in the real property or improvement based on their negligent conduct in the repair or maintenance of the improvement or to actions for damages against surveyors for their own errors in boundary surveys. The term "improvement" as used in this section shall have the same meaning as in section 507-41 and the phrase "date of completion" as used in this section shall mean the time when there has been substantial completion of the improvement or the improvement has been abandoned. The filing of an affidavit of publication and notice of completion with the circuit court where the property is situated in compliance with section 507-43(f) shall be prima facie evidence of the date of completion. [Inclusion of sureties in this] This section shall not be construed to prevent, limit, or extend any shorter period of limitation applicable to sureties provided for in any contract or bond or any other statute, nor to extend or add to the liability of any surety beyond that for which the surety agreed to be liable by contract or bond.

(c) Nothing in this section shall exclude or limit the liability provisions as set forth in the products liability laws."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on June 1, 1994.

(Approved June 21, 1994.)