



The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

Testimony to the House Committee on Labor and Public Employment

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Representative Daniel Holt, Vice Chair

and

The House Committee on Public Safety

Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair

Representative Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 22, 2018 9:00 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

by

Judge Greg K. Nakamura

Chief Judge, Third Circuit

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 3079, S. D. 1, Relating to Law Enforcement.

Purpose: Establishes one (1) full-time equivalent lieutenant position in the Kona unit of the Sheriff Division within the Department of Public Safety. Appropriates funds for the initial six-month hiring period and for one-time costs for the purchase of position-related uniforms and equipment. Effective 7/1/2050.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports Senate Bill No. 3079, S. D. 1. We concur with the Department of Public Safety that the vast geographical area of control on the Big Island makes it difficult for the sheriff division to effectively and efficiently supervise line deputies and provide necessary services with only one (1) lieutenant position for the entire island. Having a lieutenant position



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for the Kona side of the island will help to make delivery of services more equitable between the two sides of the island.

We appreciate the work of the Sheriff Division and support their request for an additional lieutenant position on the Big Island. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.