



*The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i*

**Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary**

Representative Scott Nishimura, Chair

Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

February 3, 2017, 2:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

By

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**Bill No. and Title:** House Bill No. 1274, Relating to Courts.

**Purpose:** Raises the district courts' jurisdictional limit for civil actions involving specific performance.

**Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary supports House Bill No. 1274.

House Bill 1274 corrects an inconsistency in Hawaii Revised Statutes §604-5 that has developed in recent years. HRS §604-5 provides the jurisdictional limits for District Court. Historically, the limits within HRS §604-5 provided that the specific performance jurisdiction of the court was consistent with the overall jurisdiction of the court (now \$40,000). However, during the change in authority from \$20,000 to \$25,000 and very recent change from \$25,000 to \$40,000, the specific performance authority was apparently overlooked and remained at \$20,000. The passage of HB1274 should correct this inconsistency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.