



The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

Testimony to the House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 9:00 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

by

Calvin C. Ching, Deputy Chief Court Administrator, First Circuit

Bess Palma, Acting Registrar of the Land Court

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 653, Relating to State Partitions.

Purpose: Requires that land court actions for partition by the State be given priority.

Judiciary's Position: The Judiciary respectfully opposes House Bill No. 653.

The Judiciary respectfully opposes this bill as it would have significant negative impacts on Land Court. The proposed changes would adversely impact the general public who often are filing land court petitions prior to a sale of their property.

Currently, documents submitted to the Land Court are handled in the order in which they are received. All matters presented for hearing are set and heard as expeditiously as possible.

The court is only able to hold court hearings once a week (on Mondays). If this legislation were to pass, non-State cases would be delayed in order to accomplish the proposed change.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.