



*The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i*

**Testimony to the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means**  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Friday, March 1, 2019, 10:10 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

by

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**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

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**Bill No. and Title:** Senate Bill No. 1286, Relating to Courts.

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

**Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary supports Senate Bill No. 1286.

Senate Bill No. 1286 corrects an inconsistency in Hawai‘i 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 a very recent change from \$25,000 to \$40,000, the specific performance authority was apparently overlooked and remained at \$20,000. The passage of Senate Bill No. 1286 should correct this inconsistency.

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