



*The Judiciary, State of Hawaii*

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance**

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair  
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair  
Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 5:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

by  
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**Bill No. and Title:** Senate Bill No. 650, H.D. 1, Proposing an Amendment to Article VI, Section 3, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii Authorizing the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court to Appoint Retired Judges to Serve as Emeritus Judges.

**Purpose:** Amends Article VI Section 3 of the Hawaii Constitution to authorize the Chief Justice to appoint retired judges who have attained the age of seventy years to serve as emeritus judges.

**Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary supports Senate Bill 650, H.D. 1.

Senate Bill No. 650, H.D.1 would amend the Hawaii Constitution to allow the Chief Justice to call upon retired judges over the age of 70 to assist the courts when necessary. The Judiciary supports this proposal as the knowledge and experience of such temporary judges are recognized as valuable resources not only as judicial mentors but also to help provide fair and timely disposition of cases.

H.D.1 and Standing Committee Report No. 1268-12 provide clarity and address our comments provided in past testimony.

The ability to call upon experienced judges and justices, who have attained the age of 70 years, would be a significant benefit to the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 650, H.D.1.