April 17, 2014

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, 
President 
and Members of the Senate 
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature 
State Capitol, Room 409 
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, 
Speaker and Members of the 
House of Representatives 
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature 
State Capitol, Room 431 
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kim, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on April 17, 2014, the following bill was signed into law:

HB1846 RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION 
ACT 024 (14)

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaii
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I:

SECTION 1. Section 604-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) Except as otherwise provided, the district courts shall have jurisdiction in all civil actions where the debt, amount, damages, or value of the property claimed does not exceed \( \$25,000 \), except in civil actions involving summary possession or ejectment, in which case the district court shall have jurisdiction over any counterclaim otherwise properly brought by any defendant in the action if the counterclaim arises out of and refers to the land or premises the possession of which is being sought, regardless of the value of the debt, amount, damages, or property claim contained in the counterclaim. Attorney's commissions or fees, including those stipulated in any note or contract sued on, interest, and costs, shall not be included in computing the jurisdictional amount. Subject to subsections (b) and (c), jurisdiction under this subsection shall be exclusive when the amount in controversy, so computed, does not exceed \( \$10,000 \). The district courts shall

HB HMS 2013-4181
also have original jurisdiction of suits for specific
performance when the fair market value of such specific
performance does not exceed $20,000 and original jurisdiction to
issue injunctive relief in residential landlord-tenant cases
under chapter 521."

SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
begun before its effective date.

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

HB HMS 2013-4181
H.B. NO. 1846

Gothai Hele
F. Lee
Kealoha
Tom Benn
Hunkalima

JAN 17 2014

APPROVED this 17 day of APR, 2014

Neil Abercrombie
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII