A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FAMILY COURT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 571-87, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 "§571-87 Appointment of counsel and guardian ad litem;
- 4 compensation. (a) When it appears to a judge that a person
- 5 requesting the appointment of counsel satisfies the requirements
- 6 of chapter 802 for determination of indigency, or the court in
- 7 its discretion appoints counsel under chapters 587 and 346, part
- 8 X, or that a person requires appointment of a guardian ad litem,
- 9 the judge shall appoint counsel or a guardian ad litem to
- 10 represent the person at all stages of the proceedings, including
- 11 appeal, if any. Appointed counsel and the guardian ad litem
- 12 shall receive reasonable compensation for necessary expenses,
- 13 including travel, the amount of which shall be determined by the
- 14 court, and $\underline{reasonable}$ fees pursuant to subsection (b). All of
- 15 these expenses <u>and fees</u> shall be [certified] <u>ordered</u> by the
- 16 court and paid upon vouchers approved by the judiciary and
- 17 warrants drawn by the comptroller.

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The court shall determine the amount of reasonable
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         (b)
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    compensation paid to appointed counsel and guardian ad litem,
    based on the rate of [$40] $90 an hour for [out-of-court] legal
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4
    services, and $60 an hour for [in-court] non-legal services
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    [with a maximum fee in accordance with]; provided that the
    maximum allowable fee shall not exceed the following schedule:
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7
              Cases arising under chapters 587 and 346, part X:
         (1)
8
                   Predisposition.....[$1,500;] $3,000;
              (A)
                   Postdisposition review hearing...[$500;] $1,000;
9
              (B)
10
         (2)
              Cases arising under chapters 560, 571, 580, and
              584.....[<del>$1,500.</del>] $3,000.
11
12
         Payments in excess of any maximum provided for under
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    paragraphs (1) and (2) may be made whenever the court in which
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    the representation was rendered [certifies] orders, based upon
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    representations of extraordinary circumstances, attested to by
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    the applicant, that the amount of the excess payment is
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    necessary to provide fair compensation in light of those
    circumstances, and the payment is approved by the administrative
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    judge of [such] that court."
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         SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
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    and stricken. New statutory language is underscored.
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         SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.
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Report Title:

Court-Appointed Counsel & Guardian Ad Litem Fees; Family Court;

Description:

Increases fees for court-appointed counsel and guardians ad litem in family court cases. (HB1211 HD1)

