
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FILING FEES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that having different
2 filing fee schedules for divorce and paternity actions creates a
3 burdensome and confusing situation for low-income litigants.
4 Although the waiver of initial filing fees for termination of
5 parental right actions, including paternity actions, was
6 intended to reduce the burden on unmarried litigants who may
7 have less ability to pay the initial filing fee, the fees to
8 file subsequent motions still create significant ongoing expense
9 in paternity cases. Eliminating fees to file motions and
10 increasing the initial filing fee in paternity cases to match
11 the filing fee in divorce cases will reduce uncertainty
12 regarding the cost of paternity actions by requiring a single
13 fee at the initiation of the case, as opposed to an unknown
14 number of fees as the case progresses.

15 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to alter the filing
16 fee schedules for actions to determine father and child
17 relationships to achieve parity with divorce cases by:

18 (1) Establishing an initial filing fee of \$100; and



1 (2) Eliminating the filing fee to file motions.

2 SECTION 2. Section 607-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
3 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

4 "(b) The fees referred to in subsection (a) are:

5 (1) Except for petitions for temporary restraining order
6 under section 604-10.5, the fee for which shall be the
7 same as that provided in section [~~607-5(b)(19)~~],
8 607-5(b)(20), for the institution of each action or
9 proceeding, to include all charges except as provided
10 by paragraphs

11 (2) to (6) \$100

12 (2) Intervention; answer containing one or more cross-
13 claims or counterclaims; third-party complaint, for
14 each such matter \$10

15 (3) Demand for jury trial Fee prescribed
16 by section 607-5

17 (4) Filing of notice of appeal, to be paid in addition to
18 the deposit of appellate court costs \$100

19 (5) Making of a copy; comparing of copy with
20 original Fees prescribed by section 92-21



1 (8)\$30 for each violation in
2 addition to any fine imposed
3 by the court, and whether or
4 not such fine is suspended

5 (10) Administrative costs associated with the processing of
6 all civil filings except those brought by the State or
7 any of the various counties and political subdivisions
8 of the State, those commenced by a petition for
9 temporary restraining order under section 604-10.5,
10 and those commenced and conducted in the small claims
11 division of the district court\$20."

12 SECTION 3. Section 607-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

14 " (b) PART I

15 Action or proceeding, general:

16 (1) Civil action or special proceeding, unless
17 another item in part I applies\$200

18 (1a) Petition for conversion of nonjudicial
19 foreclosure to judicial foreclosure\$250

20 (2) Appeal to a circuit court\$100



- 1 (3) Transfer of action to circuit court from district
- 2 court, in addition to district court fees\$125
- 3 Trusts:
- 4 (4) Proceeding for (A) appointment of trustee; (B)
- 5 appointment of successor; (C) resignation of
- 6 trustee; (D) instructions; (E) approval of
- 7 investment; (F) approval of sale, mortgage,
- 8 lease, or other disposition of property; (G)
- 9 approval of compromise of claim, for each such
- 10 matter\$100
- 11 (5) Proceeding for (A) removal of trustee; (B) order
- 12 requiring accounting; (C) invalidation of action
- 13 taken by trustee; (D) termination of trust, for
- 14 each such matter\$100
- 15 (6) Accounting, this fee to be paid for each account
- 16 filed and to include the settlement of the
- 17 account\$10
- 18 (7) Vesting orderno charge under part I
- 19 (8) Allowance of fees of trustees, attorneys, or
- 20 other fees for services incurred in a



- 1 proceeding for which a fee has been paid
- 2 under this sectionno charge under part I
- 3 (8a) Registration of a trust, or release of
- 4 registration, under chapter 560\$3
- 5 (9) Any other proceeding relating to a trust\$15
- 6 Conservatorship:
- 7 (10) Proceeding for (A) appointment; (B) appointment
- 8 of successor; (C) resignation; (D) instructions,
- 9 unless included in one of the foregoing
- 10 proceedings; (E), (F), (G) approval of any matter
- 11 listed in (E), (F), or (G) of item (4) in
- 12 relation to a trust, for each such matter\$100
- 13 (11) Proceeding of the nature listed in (A), (B), (C),
- 14 or (D) of item (5) in relation to a trust, for
- 15 each such matter\$15
- 16 (12) Accounting, same as provided by item (6) in
- 17 relation to a trust\$10
- 18 (13) Any other proceeding relating to a
- 19 conservatorshipno charge under part I
- 20 Guardianship:



1 (13a) Guardianship, including all matters of the nature
2 listed in items (4) to (9), whether in family or
3 circuit court \$100

4 Probate (decedents' estates). These fees include all matters of
5 the nature listed in items (4) to (9), without additional
6 charge:

7 (14) Probate, administration, domiciliary foreign
8 personal representative, or ancillary
9 administration, this fee to be paid once only for
10 each decedent's estate \$100

11 Family court cases:

12 (15) Matrimonial action (annulment, divorce,
13 separation, or separate maintenance) \$100

14 (16) Adoption \$100

15 (17) Guardianship, including all matters of the nature
16 listed in items (4) to (9) As provided in item [~~13(a)~~] 13a

17 (18) Termination of parental rights, except
18 determinations of father and child relationship
19 pursuant to section 584-6 no charge under part I

20 (19) Determinations of father and child relationship
21 pursuant to section 584-6 \$100



1 [~~19~~] (20) Any other family court proceeding, except
2 motions or other pleadings in matrimonial,
3 adoption, determinations of father and child
4 relationship pursuant to section 584-6, and
5 guardianship actions, but including without
6 limitation custody proceedings even if in the
7 form of an habeas corpus proceeding \$15"

8 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Family Court; Paternity Actions; Filing Fees

Description:

Changes the filing fee schedule for paternity actions by establishing an initial filing fee of \$100 and eliminating fees to file motions. (CD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

