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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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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:



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

(2) Eliminating the filing fee to file motions.

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

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

(1) Except for petitions for temporary restraining order under section 604-10.5, the fee for which shall be the same as that provided in section [~~607-5(b)(19)~~], 607-5(b)(20), for the institution of each action or

proceeding, to include all charges except as provided by paragraphs

(2) to (6).....\$100

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

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

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

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



1 (6) Posting notice; service fees; garnishee fees; mileage  
2 charges; or other services actually  
3 performed.....Amounts necessary to cover  
4 actual costs or disbursements

5 (7) Administrative costs associated with the  
6 processing of traffic citations that involve  
7 stopping (when prohibited), standing,  
8 or parking.....\$10 for each violation in  
9 addition to any fine imposed by  
10 the court, and whether or  
11 not such fine is suspended

12 (8) Administrative costs associated with the processing of  
13 traffic citations which do not involve stopping,  
14 standing, or parking.....\$40 for each violation in  
15 addition to any fine imposed  
16 by the court, and whether or  
17 not such fine is suspended

18 (9) Administrative costs associated with the processing of  
19 traffic citations issued for violations of a statute  
20 or ordinance relating to vehicles or their drivers, or  
21 owners, except those as provided by paragraphs (7) and



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

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

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

" (b) PART I

Action or proceeding, general:

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

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

(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 order.....no 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 section.....no 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 conservatorship.....no 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. (HD1)

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

