

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR - 3 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2593

Honorable Robert Bunda  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2593 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COURT FEES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to exempt certain Family and Circuit Court proceedings from normally required court and witness fees.

Specifically, the exemption applies to any proceedings for the protection of any child under the child protective law, chapter 587, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee finds that there has been a long-standing practice not to assess fees in cases filed to protect children. The cases are generally filed by the Department of the Attorney General, which, as a government agency, is normally not assessed filing fees. In many of these cases, the child's parents have court appointed counsel and are not assessed fees. Your Committee believes that even when the child's family does not qualify for a court appointed attorney or appears pro se, no fees should be assessed against these parties. This bill clarifies the waiver of initial filing fees and subsequent fees for motions or other pleadings.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2593 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.




Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the  
Committee on Ways and Means  
(Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:* SB 2593	Committee Referral: JHW, WAM	Date: 2/24/06		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (2312) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (2311) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold (2310) <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit (2313)				
Members	Ayes	Ayes(WR)	Nays	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				/
ESPERO, Will	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
HOOSER, Gary L.	/			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	/			
KANNO, Brian	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	/			
SAKAMOTO, Norman				/
HEMMINGS, Fred	/			
SLOM, Sam	/			
TRIMBLE, Gordon	/			
TOTAL	12	0	0	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:             Original             Yellow             Pink             Goldenrod File with Committee Report             Clerk's Office             Drafting Agency             Committee File Copy				

\*Do not list more than one measure per Record of Votes.