A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MORTGAGE COLLECTIONS.

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

1	SECT	ION 1. Chapter 480D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended b	y adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3	and to read as follows:	
4	" <u>§48</u>	OD- Mortgage collection firms; prohibited
5	practices	; penalties and remedies. (a) A mortgage collection
6	firm shal	l not:
7	(1)	Offer evidence in a residential mortgage foreclosure
8		proceeding under chapter 667 that the firm knows to be
9		false;
10	(2)	Knowingly breach a bona fide mortgage modification
11		agreement; or
12	<u>(3)</u>	Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, retake
13		possession, without judicial process, of residential
14		real property for a party filing a mortgage
15		foreclosure action upon the property, unless the
16		property is abandoned for more than thirty days.
17	<u>(</u> b)	A violation of subsection (a) is an unfair or
18	deceptive	act or practice in the conduct of any trade or
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1	commerce within the meaning of section 480-2. A mortgage		
2	collection firm that violates subsection (a) is subject to the		
3	penalties and remedies provided in sections 480D-4 and 480D-5,		
4	including the award of reasonable attorney's fees and costs.		
5	(c) For purposes of this section:		
6	"Mortgage collection firm" means:		
7	(1) An attorney or law firm engaged to represent a party		
8	filing a residential mortgage foreclosure action; or		
9	(2) A person engaged in debt collection services for a		
10	residential mortgage loan.		
11	"Mortgage modification agreement" means a written agreement		
12	to modify the interest rate or other terms of a residential		
13	mortgage to avoid default of the mortgage or foreclosure		
14	proceedings."		
15	SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.		
16	SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.		
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Report Title:

Mortgage Collection Practices

Description:

Prohibits mortgage collection firms from certain acts, such as knowingly breaching a bona fide mortgage modification agreement. Provides penalties.

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