

JAN 15 2014

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The auditor shall conduct a financial and
2 management audit of the family court of the first circuit to
3 determine if the family court is in compliance with all relevant
4 programmatic and financial requirements. The audit shall
5 include a review of the following:

- 6 (1) The appointments of guardians ad litem;
7 (2) The responsibilities, services, and activities of
8 guardians ad litem;
9 (3) The propriety of expenditures;
10 (4) The compliance of guardians ad litem with laws and
11 rules;
12 (5) The management and oversight of guardians ad litem by
13 the judiciary;
14 (6) Child custody evaluations;
15 (7) Qualifications and training of mediators and
16 evaluators;
17 (8) Determinations of income of parties;



- 1 (9) Whether the focus of the courts is on the best
- 2 interests of the child;
- 3 (10) The child custody process; and
- 4 (11) Any additional audit issues that the auditor deems
- 5 appropriate.

6 SECTION 2. The judiciary and any person receiving state
7 funds for service performed as a guardian ad litem, mediator, or
8 child custody evaluator shall fully cooperate with and provide
9 assistance to the auditor as needed with respect to the audit
10 and shall respond promptly to the auditor's requests in
11 conducting this audit, including providing records and other
12 information requested in the course of the audit.

13 SECTION 3. The auditor shall submit its findings and
14 recommendations to the legislature no later than twenty days
15 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2015.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Shiranne Chun Oakland
By Request



S.B. NO. 2059

Report Title:

Judiciary; Family Court; Children; Guardians Ad Litem;
Mediation; Child Custody

Description:

Requires the auditor to perform a management and performance audit of the family court of the first circuit, including activities by guardians ad litem, child custody evaluations, mediator and evaluator qualifications and training, income determination, decisions made in the best interests of the child, and the child custody process.

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