
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY SPOUSE AND CHILD ABUSE SPECIAL
ACCOUNT.

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

1 The legislature finds that although the Hawaii Revised
2 Statutes are clear that the best interest of the child is the
3 paramount consideration in child custody cases, the court is
4 often not able to determine the validity of domestic violence or
5 child abuse issues that affect the complete safety of the child.

6 The legislature further finds that judges of the family
7 court can benefit from more training regarding domestic violence
8 and child abuse. The state judiciary's annual report to the
9 twenty-eighth legislature 2016 regular session states, "The
10 opportunity for training of judges and judiciary staff on a wide
11 range of important and inter-connected issues relating to
12 domestic violence and child abuse and neglect continues to be
13 possible and addresses an on-going need."

14 The purpose of this Act is to establish a funding mechanism
15 to ensure that all judges in the family court of Hawaii are
16 provided with sufficient training to address custody cases,



1 where the possibility of domestic violence or child abuse may be
2 present.

3 SECTION 2. Section 572-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) The department of health shall appoint, and at its
6 pleasure remove, one or more suitable persons as agents
7 authorized to grant marriage licenses under this chapter in each
8 judicial circuit. The agents may issue licenses from any state
9 facility when deemed necessary by the director. Any agent
10 appointed under this subsection and receiving an application for
11 a marriage license shall collect from the applicant for the
12 license \$60, of which the agent, except those provided for in
13 subsection (b), shall retain [~~\$9~~] \$7 for the agent's benefit and
14 compensation and shall remit [~~\$51~~] \$53 to the director of
15 health. Upon the receipt of remittances under this subsection,
16 the director of health shall deposit:

- 17 (1) \$32 for each license issued to the credit of the
18 general fund of the State;
- 19 (2) \$4.50 for each license issued to the credit of the
20 spouse and child abuse special account established
21 under section 346-7.5;



1 (3) [~~\$4.50~~] \$6.50 for each license issued to the credit of
2 the spouse and child abuse special account established
3 under section 601-3.6; provided that \$2 shall be set
4 aside to provide family court judges with training on
5 domestic violence or child abuse that is conducted by
6 trainers who have hands-on experience in the field;
7 and

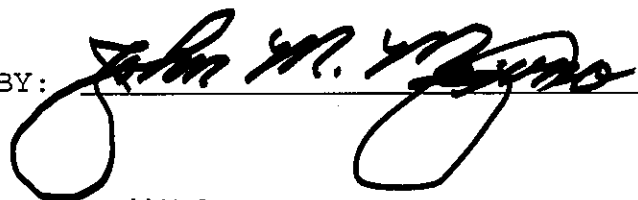
8 (4) \$10 for each license issued to the credit of the birth
9 defects special fund established under section 321-
10 426."

11 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

14

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 21 2016



H.B. NO. 1694

Report Title:

Judiciary Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account; Domestic Violence; Child Abuse

Description:

Sets aside funds from marriage licenses granted by agents in each judicial circuit for the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account for the training of family court judges on domestic violence or child abuse.

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