

The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i

Testimony to the House Committee on Health & Human Services

Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 9:00 am State Capitol, Conference Room 329

By

Catherine H. Remigio Senior Judge, Deputy Chief Judge Family Court of the First Circuit

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: House Bill No. 1885, Relating to Family Court

Purpose: Requires certain persons to immediately report a potential tort claim to the family court when that person has reason to believe that a child in foster custody has suffered an injury that may arise to a tort claim. Establishes procedures for the family court to allow a child in foster custody who has suffered an injury to seek outside legal representation for a claim of damages as a result of a tort.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary takes no position on House Bill No. 1885 but respectfully offers the following comment.

There is a potential for large costs to the Judiciary and the family court associated with the court's appointment of a master, including the master's compensation and other costs related to the master's report.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.