

**SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS**

**SB 255**

**2022 Regular Session**

**Barrow**

**KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. Provides for court costs and fees in domestic abuse cases. (gov sig)

**SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL**

1. Remove the definition of "frivolous claim".
2. Provide that the failure to appear on its own is not grounds to assess costs or fees.

**DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

DIGEST

SB 255 Engrossed

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Present law provides that all court costs and fees incurred in maintaining or defending any proceeding concerning domestic abuse assistance in juvenile, family, and civil courts are to be paid by the perpetrator of the domestic violence, including all costs of medical and psychological care for the abused adult, or for any of the children, necessitated by the domestic violence.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that if the court determines that a petition in a domestic abuse case was frivolous, the court may order the nonprevailing party to pay all court costs and reasonable attorney fees of the other party.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that for purposes of present law, provides that failure to appear at a hearing on the petition for a protective order shall not on its own constitute grounds for assessing court costs and fees against the petitioner.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends Ch.C. Art. 1570.1 and R.S. 46:2136.1)

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