

Bill No. SB 874  
Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Senator Ostalkiewicz moved the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 28, between lines 18 and 19,

insert:

Section 18. (1) An attorney shall not contract for or collect a contingency fee for representing any person seeking damages in any tort action, except where otherwise provided by statute, in excess of the following limits:

(a) Thirty-three percent of any award up to \$100,000; plus

(b) Twenty-five percent of any portion of the award between \$100,000 and \$500,000; plus

(c) Twenty percent of any portion of the award between \$500,000 and \$1 million; plus

(d) Fifteen percent of any portion of the award exceeding \$1 million.

Parties may, by private contract, agree to contingent fee arrangements providing for attorney fees less than provided in

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1 these limits, but not greater.

2 (2) The Legislature finds and declares that there is a  
3 major litigation crisis in the State of Florida. This  
4 legislation will deter attorneys from bringing frivolous suits  
5 or encouraging their clients to hold out for unreasonably high  
6 settlements. Additionally, this legislation will protect  
7 plaintiffs from having their recoveries diminished by high  
8 contingency fees.

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10 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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13 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

14 And the title is amended as follows:

15 On page 4, after the semicolon,

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17 insert:

18 limiting contingent legal fees; providing

19 legislative findings;

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