

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY BROWN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

COURTS: Provides relative to the judicial expense fund for the Thirty-Fifth Judicial District

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:996.46(C), relative to the Thirty-Fifth Judicial District Court;  
3 to authorize the use of money in the Thirty-Fifth Judicial Expense Fund to pay  
4 personnel health insurance premiums, certification fees, continuing education fees,  
5 and capital expenditures; to provide for retroactive and prospective application; and  
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 13:996.46(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §996.46. Judicial expense fund for Thirty-Fifth Judicial District

10 \* \* \*

11 C.(1) The judge of the Thirty-Fifth Judicial District Court may, in lieu of all  
12 or any part of the fees for reporting and transcribing testimony authorized under the  
13 provisions of R.S. 13:961(F), or other applicable laws, and in addition to salaries  
14 otherwise provided, authorized, or established by law, fix and pay his court reporters  
15 a salary from the judicial expense fund. The judge may further appoint ~~such~~  
16 secretarial, clerical, research, administrative, or other personnel as he deems  
17 necessary to expedite the business and function of the court. ~~and~~ The judge may fix  
18 and pay all or any part of the salaries, health insurance premiums, certification fees,  
19 or continuing education fees of court reporters or appointed ~~of such~~ personnel out of  
20 the monies in the judicial expense fund.

1           (2) ~~In like manner,~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
2           contrary, the judge may utilize the monies in the judicial expense fund to pay all or  
3           any part of the cost of establishing or maintaining a law library for the court, for the  
4           renovation, improvement, or purchasing of existing structures or construction of new  
5           structures to be used for any purposes incidental to, or related to, the proper  
6           administration or function of the court or the office of the judge, or for buying or  
7           maintaining any type of equipment, supplies, or other items consistent with or  
8           germane to the efficient operation of the court. For purposes of this Paragraph, the  
9           judge may utilize monies in the judicial expense fund for capital outlay expenses  
10           associated with the renovation or construction of the courthouse or office of the  
11           judge including but not limited to design, demolition, construction, materials,  
12           supplies, equipment, and labor.

13           (3) In general, the judicial expense fund is established and may be used for  
14           any purposes ~~connected with, incidental to or~~ related to the proper administration or  
15           function of the ~~said~~ court or ~~the~~ office of the judge ~~thereof~~, and is in addition to any  
16           and all other funds, salaries, expenses, or other monies that are ~~now or hereafter~~  
17           provided, authorized, or established by law ~~for any of the aforesaid purposes.~~

\* \* \*

19           Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be given prospective and retroactive  
20           application.

21           Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
22           signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
23           by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
24           vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
25           effective on the day following such approval.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 10 Engrossed

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**Abstract:** Authorizes money in the 35<sup>th</sup> Judicial Expense Fund to be used for personnel health insurance premiums, certification fees, continuing education fees, and capital expenditures.

Present law allows the use of money in the 35<sup>th</sup> Judicial Expense Fund to pay salaries of court reporters, law clerks, secretaries, and other necessary research personnel, to establish or maintain a law library, and to purchase supplies and equipment, or for any other purpose related to the efficient operation of the court.

Proposed law retains present law and specifically authorizes the use of money in the 35<sup>th</sup> Judicial Expense Fund to pay personnel health insurance premiums, certification fees, or continuing education fees and for capital outlay expenditures including renovations of existing structures, construction of new structures, and any purpose related to the proper administrative function of the court or office of the judge.

Provides that the provisions of proposed law are to be applied retroactively as well as prospectively.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:996.46(C))