

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 415 (HB 327)

2017 Regular Session

Schexnayder

New law establishes the Ascension Parish Courthouse Fund for the construction of a new courthouse for the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC in Ascension Parish and the Ascension Parish Court, and the renovation or conversion of the existing courthouse.

New law provides for the following charges to be imposed and collected in all cases over which the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC for the parish of Ascension and the Ascension Parish Court have jurisdiction:

- (1) \$150 per initial filing of a civil suit.
- (2) \$30 per filing of each additional pleading.

New law provides that these charges shall be in addition to other civil filing fees levied and collected by the Ascension Parish Clerk of Court. New law further provides that such charges shall be imposed by the judges of the 23<sup>rd</sup> JDC acting en banc and the Ascension Parish Court judge.

New law provides that monies generated by new law shall be held by the Ascension Parish Clerk of Court, remitted at least monthly to the Dept. of Finance for the parish, and irrevocably deposited into the Ascension Parish Courthouse Fund. New law further provides for the purpose and use of the fund.

New law provides that once bonds have been matured or have been satisfied in full and there is no other indebtedness outstanding to the Ascension Parish courthouse, the judges and the Ascension Parish Council shall reduce the amount of the filing fee to an amount sufficient for the continued operation and maintenance of the Ascension Parish Courthouse.

New law provides for the ownership and control of the Ascension Parish Courthouse Fund and provides for the obligations of the Ascension Parish Council.

New law provides procedures regarding the use of surplus funds and authorizes the reduction of the filing charges. New law further authorizes the use of cooperative endeavor agreements in conjunction with the design, construction, renovation, equipping, operation, furnishing and maintenance of the new Ascension Parish Courthouse.

Effective upon Judicial Council approval.

(Adds R.S. 13:996.69)