

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARINO

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

WITNESSES/FEEES: Provides with respect to off-duty law enforcement witness fees for the 24th Judicial District

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:255(V), relative to witness fees; to provide relative to witness fees in the
3 Twenty-Fourth Judicial District; to provide for the transfer of certain surplus witness
4 fees; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 15:255(V) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §255. Witness fees to off-duty law enforcement officers

8 * * *

9 V.(1) In the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District, surplus monies in the special
10 fund provided for in Subsection D of this Section that exceed one million five
11 hundred thousand dollars at the end of each calendar year shall be transmitted by the
12 governing authority of Jefferson Parish to the following entities in the following
13 amounts:

14 (a) Fifty percent to the Commissioner's Fee Fund of the Twenty-Fourth
15 Judicial District Court, provided for in R.S. 13:718(J).

16 (b) Fifty percent to the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

17 (2) As used in this Subsection, "surplus monies" means the amount of money
18 which is in the special fund at the end of each calendar year which is in excess of the
19 total amount paid from the special fund as witness fees for off-duty law enforcement
20 officers in that calendar year.

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)]

HB 10 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Marino

Abstract: Provides for the distribution of surplus witness fee funds in the 24th Judicial District.

Present law provides for the collection of court costs, known as "witness fees", to pay off-duty law enforcement officers who are required to be present in a criminal case or delinquency proceeding. Provides that each judicial district shall establish a schedule of witness fees and shall place these fees in a special fund administered by the governing authority.

Proposed law provides that in the 24th Judicial District, surplus monies in the witness fee fund that exceeds \$1.5 million at the end of each calendar year shall be transmitted by the governing authority of Jefferson Parish to the following entities in the following amounts:

- (1) 50% to the Commissioner's Fee Fund of the 24th Judicial District Court.
- (2) 50% to the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

(Adds R.S. 15:255(V))