

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 218****2019 Regular Session****Marcelle**

COURTS/CITY: Provides relative to Baton Rouge City Court probation officers

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Allows the deferral of court costs in the 19th JDC only for the state and its departments.
2. When deferring court costs in the 19th JDC, requires the state and its departments to deposit an advance filing fee in the amount of \$200.
3. Allows the clerk of court to forward a certified copy of the judgment to the office of debt recovery if the assessed court cost is not paid within 30 days of the judgment becoming final. Further allows the office of debt recovery to collect outstanding court costs on behalf of the clerk of court.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law authorizes the clerk of court and judicial administrator of Baton Rouge City Court to commission Baton Rouge City Court probation officers. Provides that Baton Rouge City Court Probation Division shall be recognized as a law enforcement agency. Requires probation officers to be P.O.S.T.-certified. Additionally, proposed law provides that the probation officers shall have certain powers and authority in and out of the courtroom including the authority to arrest.

Present law authorizes the temporary deferral of court costs in judicial proceedings instituted or prosecuted by or against the state, any political subdivision, or agent, officer, or employee thereof in any court of this state or any municipality of this state.

Present law provides certain exceptions and limitations to this authority.

Proposed law allows for the deferral of court costs in the 19th JDC only for the state and its departments.

Present law provides that in suits for protection of state's interests and rights, no court of the state shall require any security for costs or any advance costs.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that when court costs are deferred in suits filed in the 19th JDC, the state and its departments are required to deposit an advance filing fee of \$200.

Proposed law allows the clerk of court to forward a certified copy of the recorded judgment to the office of debt recovery in the event the deferred court cost are not paid within 30 days of the judgment becoming final. The office of debt recovery may collect any outstanding deferred court costs on behalf of the clerk of court.

(Amends R.S. 13:4521(A)(1) and 5036; Adds R.S. 13:2071.1 and 4521(E))