
DIGEST

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HB 627 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Dwight

Abstract: Increases the transcript fees available for court reporters in the 14th JDC in Calcasieu Parish for matters on appeal or prepared for indigents.

Present law authorizes court reporters in the 14th JDC in Calcasieu Parish to charge a \$2.50 per page for originals and \$.25 per page for copies for all cases which are reported and transcribed for appeal, and for all cases which are reported but not transcribed, one-half of those fees.

Proposed law retains present law and increases the amount from \$2.50 to \$3.25 per page for originals and from \$.25 to \$.75 for copies that court reporters in the 14th JDC in Calcasieu Parish can charge for all cases which are reported and transcribed for appeal.

Present law requires the court administrator for the 14th JDC to establish a criminal indigent transcript fund for deposit of all monies received for payment of court reporter fees for transcripts prepared for indigents.

Present law requires the fund to be used only to compensate criminal court reporters for preparation of any transcript for indigent defendants, including trials, motions, hearings on writs, and all court proceedings. Present law further requires that the court reporters be paid a fee of \$2.50 per 31-line page and \$.25 per page copy in all cases, by the court administrator, as funds become available.

Proposed law retains present law but increases the court reporter fee from \$2.50 to \$3.25 per 32-line page and from \$.25 to \$.75 per page copy on transcripts for indigent defendants.

Proposed law repeals a duplicative provision of law referring to court reporter fees in Calcasieu Parish.

Proposed law provides for the provisions of proposed law to become effective if and when the Judicial Council reviews such request and makes a recommendation to the legislature in its 2018 report that the fees meet applicable guidelines.

(Amends R.S. 13:964(H) and 964.1(B); Repeals R.S. 13:964.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Provide that proposed law will become effective if and when the Judicial Council reviews the request and makes its recommendations to the legislature in its 2018 report.
2. Add technical amendments.