

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 66

BY REPRESENTATIVE MAGEE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:976, relative to court reporters; to provide relative to fees for  
3 transcripts in the Thirty-Second Judicial District; to provide for fees for cases on  
4 appeal; to provide for private civil contracts in matters not on appeal; to provide for  
5 a contingent effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:976 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §976. Thirty-Second Judicial District; additional court reporters; transcript fees;  
9 contracts

10 A. In addition to the court reporters appointed under the provisions of ~~R.S.~~  
11 ~~13:961A~~ R.S. 13:961(A), the judges of the Thirty-Second Judicial District Court,  
12 sitting en banc, and with the approval of the Terrebonne Parish governing authority,  
13 may appoint additional qualified court reporters as they deem necessary, who shall  
14 serve at the pleasure of the court en banc, and may be assigned to the various  
15 divisions of the court, or to the grand jury, as the court en banc may direct.

16 B. Each of ~~said~~ the court reporters shall be paid by the Terrebonne Parish  
17 governing authority out of the parish general fund, a salary to be fixed by the judges  
18 en banc of the Thirty-Second Judicial District Court subject to the approval of the  
19 parish governing authority. The governing authority of the parish shall annually, and  
20 at the same time as it prepares its general budget of expenses, budget an amount  
21 sufficient to pay the salaries of the ~~said~~ court reporters.

1           C. In all cases on appeal, the ~~The~~ civil and criminal transcript fee for all  
 2           court reporters in the Thirty-Second Judicial District ~~should~~ shall not exceed ~~two~~  
 3           ~~dollars and seventy-five cents~~ three dollars and fifty cents per ~~thirty-one~~ thirty-two  
 4           line page and ~~twenty-five~~ seventy-five cents per page copy. These fees shall be  
 5           charged by and be paid to the court reporter who reported and transcribed the  
 6           testimony, shall be retained by him as compensation in addition to his salary, and  
 7           shall be taxed as costs of the suit in which the testimony is taken. When a copy is  
 8           requested by a litigant, a copy shall be provided and a fee not to exceed one dollar  
 9           for each page shall be charged and paid to the court reporter.

10           D. For matters not on appeal, a litigant requesting a transcript of testimony  
 11           or other matter transcribed shall enter into a private civil contract with the court  
 12           reporter for the payment of fees applicable to those contracts. Such fees shall be in  
 13           accordance with fees customarily charged in the judicial district for depositions.

14           D.E. In all other respects, the court reporters ~~herein~~ authorized by the  
 15           provisions of this Section shall be governed and regulated by the provisions of R.S.  
 16           13:961.

17           Section 2. In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 13:62, the increase in court costs  
 18           or fees as provided for in this Act shall become effective if and when the Judicial Council  
 19           provides a recommendation that such court costs or fees meet the applicable guidelines in  
 20           its 2018 Report to the Louisiana Legislature.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_