

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 193

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES OWEN

COURTS/COURT REPORTERS: Provides relative to transcription fees charged by court reporters in the Thirtieth Judicial District

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:978(H)(1)(a), relative to transcription fees for the Thirtieth  
3 Judicial District; to authorize an increase in transcription fees in civil and criminal  
4 cases; to provide for the cost per page for an original transcript and copies in  
5 appellate cases; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:978(H)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §978. Court reporters for thirtieth judicial district

9 \* \* \*

10 H.(1)(a) In all civil and criminal cases, a fee ~~of one dollar and fifty cents per~~  
11 ~~page and fifty cents per page additional for the first copy, thirty-five cents per page~~  
12 ~~additional for copies reported and transcribed beyond the first copy, as determined~~  
13 ~~by a majority of the judges which shall not be less than three dollars per page or~~  
14 ~~exceed six dollars per page for each original thirty-two line page transcribed, and no~~  
15 ~~less than one dollar per page for each additional copy,~~ shall be charged by and paid  
16 to the court reporter for reports and for transcribing the testimony which shall be  
17 retained by him as compensation in addition to the salary as provided herein, and  
18 shall be taxed as costs of the suit in which the testimony is taken to be collected by  
19 the clerk of court, except in pauper cases; payment of the fees shall be made  
20 primarily by the plaintiff immediately upon the transcription of the evidence, and the

1 court reporter shall not be required to file the transcript with the clerk of court before  
2 payment.

3 \* \* \*

4 Section 2. In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 13:62, the increase in court  
5 costs or fees as provided by this Act shall become effective if and when the Judicial Council  
6 provides a recommendation that such court costs or fees meet the applicable guidelines in  
7 its report to the Louisiana Legislature. No fees shall be imposed or collected without  
8 Judicial Council approval.

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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)]

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HB 193 Engrossed

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**Abstract:** Authorizes an increase in transcription fees in civil and criminal cases.

Present law provides that in civil cases a court reporter shall be paid \$1.50 per page for the original testimony reported and transcribed and 35¢ per page for copies.

Proposed law requires that in civil and criminal cases a court reporter shall not be paid an amount less than three dollars nor more than six dollars, as determined by a majority of judges, for each 32-line page of transcribed testimony and no less than one dollar per copy.

Proposed law provides that the increase in court costs or fees shall become effective upon approval by the Judicial Council.

(Amends R.S. 13:978(H)(1)(a))