

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 464

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

COURTS/COURT COSTS: Provides relative to certain witness fees

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:255(Z), relative to witness fees; to provide relative to witness fees in the
3 city of Pineville; to provide for the transfer of certain surplus witness fees; and to
4 provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

8 * * *

9 Z. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the city of Pineville
10 may adopt an ordinance which provides that on January first of each year the amount
11 of money in the witness fee fund for the City Court of Pineville which exceeds
12 fifteen thousand dollars shall be transferred to the general fund of the city of
13 Pineville to be used solely for the Community Affairs Division of the police
14 department for crime suppression. The balance of fifteen thousand dollars required
15 to be kept in the witness fee fund shall mean fifteen thousand dollars in unexpended
16 and unencumbered funds, and under no circumstances shall the balance in the
17 witness fee fund be reduced below fifteen thousand dollars as a result of a transfer
18 made under the provisions of this Subsection.

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 464 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Mike Johnson

Abstract: Provides for the distribution of surplus monies in the witness fee fund for Pineville City Court.

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 Pineville City Court, surplus monies in the witness fee fund that exceed \$15,000 at the end of each calendar year shall be transferred to the general fund of the city of Pineville to be used solely for the Community Affairs Division of the police department for crime suppression.

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Transfer surplus monies in the witness fee fund of Pineville City Court that exceed \$15,000 at the end of each calendar year to the general fund of the city of Pineville.