SLS 24RS-4405 **ORIGINAL**

2024 Regular Session

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165

BY SENATOR BARROW

COURTS. Requests the Senate Committee on Finance to study court costs in suits involving the state and political subdivisions in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court.

A RESOLUTION

2	To authorize and request the Senate Committee on Finance, or a subcommittee thereof, to
3	study and make recommendations on court costs in suits involving the state and
4	political subdivisions in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court prior to the convening
5	of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.
6	WHEREAS, the Nineteenth Judicial District Court serves as the state district court
7	in the capital of Louisiana, handling litigation involving state agencies included in R.S.
8	36:4(A) as well as many other state and local governmental entities; and
9	WHEREAS, the Nineteenth Judicial District Court stands apart from other district
10	courts in that it is the proper venue for the majority of suits filed by or against the state of
11	Louisiana or any state agency under the provisions of R.S. 13:5104; and
12	WHEREAS, although these suits filed by the state or any state agency require the
13	same handling as any other civil suit filing, the state as a filing party does not pay any
14	advanced costs based upon the provisions of R.S. 13:4521; and
15	WHEREAS, the Nineteenth Judicial District Court is burdened with the expenses
16	associated with a proceeding until such a time, which is indeterminable or may never occur,
17	that there is a resolution to the proceeding; and
18	WHEREAS, each year the state accrues an additional debt owed to the Nineteenth

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1 Judicial District Court of approximately \$725,000; and 2 WHEREAS, the Nineteenth Judicial District Court has on record over \$3.4 million 3 in unpaid filing costs, an annual average of \$678,032, related to litigation involving state agencies; and 4 WHEREAS, the overall outstanding balance for unpaid advanced costs owed by the 5 6 state presently exceeds \$7 million based upon a review of the past ten years; and 7 WHEREAS, it is a priority to establish the full amount of the expenses that the 8 Nineteenth Judicial District Court absorbs from proceedings filed by the state and political

subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to identify a dedicated funding source to defray the costs

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associated with these proceedings and compensate the Nineteenth Judicial District Court.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and request the Senate Committee on Finance, or a subcommittee

thereof, to study and make recommendations on court costs in suits involving the state and political subdivisions in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court prior to the convening of the

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Nineteenth Judicial District Court.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Lann.

DIGEST SR 165 Original 2024 Regular Session

2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

Barrow

Requests the Senate Committee on Finance, or a subcommittee thereof, to study and make recommendations on court costs in suits involving the state and political subdivisions in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court prior to the convening of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.