Regular Session, 2013

SENATE BILL NO. 124

BY SENATOR MURRAY

COURTS. Increases certain fees and court costs levied by the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans. (2/3-CA7s2.1) (gov sig)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 13:1377(A) and 1381.4(A)(2), relative to courts and judicial
3	procedure; to provide relative to the Criminal District Court for the Parish of
4	Orleans; to provide relative to the imposition of certain fees and court costs; to
5	increase certain amounts; and to provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 13:1377(A) and 1381.4(A)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to
8	read as follows:
9	§1377. Court costs and clerk's fees
10	A. Any defendant, other than an indigent, who pleads guilty or is convicted
11	of an offense by the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans shall be
12	assessed costs of court not to exceed the sum of ~~twenty-five~~ **one hundred** dollars,
13	such costs to be in addition to any fine, clerk's fees or sentence imposed by the court.
14	When any defendant, other than an indigent, fails to pay the costs referred to
15	hereinabove, he shall be sentenced to a term of thirty days in the parish prison in
16	default of the payment of same.
17	* * *

1   §1381.4. Judicial expense fund for Criminal District Court

2   A.(1)   *   *   *

3   (2) In addition to all other fines, costs, or forfeitures lawfully imposed by this

4   Section or any other provision, the court may impose an additional cost against any

5   defendant who has been finally convicted of a misdemeanor, excluding traffic

6   violations, or a felony. The additional costs authorized in this Paragraph shall not

7   exceed ~~two hundred fifty~~ **five hundred** dollars in the case of a misdemeanor nor

8   exceed two thousand **five hundred** dollars in the case of a felony. All such sums

9   collected shall be transmitted to the judicial administrator for further disposition in

10   accordance herewith.

11   *   *   *

12   Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not

13   signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

14   by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

15   vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become

16   effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument was prepared by Jerry G. Jones. The following
digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was
prepared by J.W. Wiley.

DIGEST

Murray (SB 124)

Present law relative to the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans provides that any
defendant, other than an indigent, who pleads guilty or is convicted of an offense by the
court shall be assessed costs of court not to exceed the sum of $25, such costs to be in
addition to any fine, clerk's fees or sentence imposed by the court. When any defendant,
other than an indigent, fails to pay such costs, he shall be sentenced to a term of thirty days
in the parish prison in default of the payment of same.

Proposed law increases $25 to $100 and retains remainder of present law.

Present law also provides that in addition to other fines, costs, or forfeitures lawfully
imposed, the court may impose an additional cost against any defendant who has been
finally convicted of a misdemeanor, excluding traffic violations, or a felony. Such additional
costs shall not exceed $250 in the case of a misdemeanor nor exceed $2000 in the case of
a felony. All such sums collected shall be transmitted to the judicial administrator for
disposition.

Proposed law increases $250 to $500, and $2000 to $2500, and retains remainder of present
law.

Coding: Words which are ~~struck through~~ are deletions from existing law;
words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 13:1377(A) and 1381.4(A)(2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1.   Makes technical changes.

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law;
words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.