

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 151

BY REPRESENTATIVE GUINN

COURTS/COURT COSTS: Increases court costs in criminal cases for the 31<sup>st</sup> JDC

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 13:1000.7, relative to court costs in the Thirty-First Judicial District Court; to  
3 provide for additional court costs in criminal matters; to provide for the collection  
4 and allocation of the additional funds; to provide for an audit of collected funds; and  
5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:1000.7 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1000.7. Criminal matters; Thirty-First Judicial District Court; additional costs

9 A. In all criminal cases, including traffic offenses, of which the Thirty-First  
10 Judicial District Court has jurisdiction, there shall be assessed as additional costs  
11 against every defendant who is convicted after trial or who pleads guilty or forfeits  
12 bond, a sum not to exceed ten dollars. These costs shall be in addition to all other  
13 finances, costs, or forfeitures lawfully imposed and shall be transmitted to the sheriff of  
14 Jefferson Davis Parish for further disposition in accordance with the provisions of  
15 this Section.

16 B. The sheriff shall place all sums collected or received under this Section  
17 into an account and remit the sum monthly into the operational fund of the coroner's  
18 office of Jefferson Davis Parish. The coroner shall cause to be conducted annually  
19 an audit of the account and the books and accounts relating thereto and shall file the

1           audit with the office of the legislative auditor where it shall be available for public  
2           inspection.

3           Section 2. The Louisiana Legislature hereby recognizes that it enacted R.S.  
4 13:1000.7 by Act No. 121 of the 2009 Regular Session of the Legislature, with its  
5 effectiveness contingent upon Judicial Council approval pursuant to Section 2 of that Act.  
6 Since Judicial Council approval was not obtained and the existing provision of R.S.  
7 13:1000.7 is null and void, the Louisiana Legislature hereby directs the Louisiana State Law  
8 Institute to replace the designation of R.S. 13:1000.7 with the provisions of this Act.

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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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Guinn

HB No. 151

**Abstract:** Provides for an additional fee not to exceed \$10 to be collected in all criminal cases, including traffic cases, in the 31st JDC (Jefferson Davis Parish) to fund the operations of the coroner's office.

Proposed law authorizes a fee increase of \$10 to be collected in all criminal cases, including traffic offenses in which the 31st JDC has jurisdiction, from every defendant who is convicted after trial or who pleads guilty or forfeits bond in addition to all other fines, costs, or forfeitures lawfully imposed. Proposed law further requires the clerk to transmit all funds collected to the sheriff.

Proposed law requires the sheriff to place all sums received into an account and to remit the sum monthly into the operational fund of the coroner's office of Jefferson Davis Parish.

Proposed law requires the coroner to conduct an annual audit of the books and accounts relating to the operational fund and to file the audit with the office of the legislative auditor where it shall be available for public inspection.

(Adds R.S. 13:1000.7)