
DIGEST

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Claitor

SB No. 478

Proposed law requires all courts within the parish of East Baton Rouge to levy a warrant recall fee of \$50 on all persons who fail to appear as ordered on all misdemeanor offenses and traffic offenses where a warrant for arrest has been issued, the proceeds of which are to pay the expenses of operating a misdemeanor detention facility in the parish.

Proposed law requires the clerks of court to place all sums collected under proposed law with the finance director for the city of Baton Rouge and parish of East Baton Rouge, who is to place the funds in a separate account designated as the Misdemeanor Detention Fund. Further requires that all monies in this account are to be used solely for paying expenses associated with the operation of a misdemeanor detention facility in the parish. Further requires that the finance director is to have an annual audit of the fund conducted, and the audit is to be filed with the office of the legislative auditor and made available for public inspection.

Proposed law requires that all law enforcement agencies within the parish, confer to create and implement additional pilot programs for the periodic targeted enforcement of outstanding warrants until sufficient revenues are generated to sustain the permanent operation of the misdemeanor detention facility.

Proposed law provides that the mayor-president of Baton Rouge is authorized to expend funds and enter into cooperative endeavor agreements with the sheriff and all courts within East Baton Rouge Parish in order to carry out the provisions of proposed law, subject to the approval of the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council.

Proposed law provides that the mayor-president, through the city-parish finance department, is to report quarterly to the Metropolitan Council and the courts within the parish on the matters set forth in proposed law, including recommendations regarding necessary adjustments and the financial feasibility of the misdemeanor warrant enforcement programs.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 13:1000.10, 1415, 2002.1, 2488.40, and 2489.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the engrossed bill.

1. Changed the collection of the warrant recall fee by the courts from permissive to mandatory.
2. Made technical changes to provide for the collection of the warrant recall fee in each Chapter within Title 13 for each respective court.