

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 69

2015 Regular Session

James

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

COURTS/CITY. Provides relative to certain courts, court funds, and costs and fees.

DIGEST

Proposed law relative to the Baton Rouge City Court authorizes the clerk of such court to collect an additional fee not to exceed \$10 in all civil filings, subject to the provisions of present law (C.C.P. Art. 5181), which provides an exception for those individuals who are unable to pay court costs due to poverty or lack of means.

Proposed law authorizes Baton Rouge City Court judges to assess an additional fee not to exceed \$10 against every defendant in criminal cases, including traffic offenses, who is convicted after trial or who pleads guilty or forfeits bond.

Proposed law requires the clerk to deposit all funds collected into a separate account (court technology fund) to be expended solely by the clerk for the acquisition and maintenance of new and existing electronic case management systems, including costs associated with professional services, licensing, support, and equipment for such systems, and for technology enhancements of court operations.

Proposed law requires the adoption of a resolution or ordinance by the local governing authority prior to the creation of the account and the collection of fees.

Present law relative to the Civil District Court for the parish of Orleans provides procedures, powers and duties of the court's judicial building fund, including the power to levy certain additional costs and charges.

Present law provides that if public bids are not let for the construction of a facility by August 15, 2015, the authority to levy such additional costs and charges shall terminate. Proposed law provides that if by August 15, 2016, neither public bids have been let for construction nor a lease agreement executed for a privately constructed facility for use as a courthouse, then the authority to levy such additional costs and charges shall terminate.

Present law provides relative to actions until the bonded indebtedness is paid. Proposed law includes lease obligations, if the commission leases a privately constructed facility for use as a courthouse. Also provides for certain actions if the new courthouse is located on property owned by the city of New Orleans.

(Amends R.S. 13:996.67(A), (B)(1) and (2), (C)(3) and (6) and (D); adds R.S. 13:2002.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

- 1. Clarify that the clerk may impose a fee in all civil cases.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary A to the reengrossed bill

- 1. Adds provisions relative to the judicial building fund of the Civil District Court for the parish of Orleans.