

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 538

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO

COURTS/COURT REPORTERS: Provides relative to court reporter fees on appeal matters and transcript contracts

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:980(D)(1), relative to court reporters for the Thirty-Fourth
3 Judicial District Court; to provide for court reporter fees on matters on appeal; to
4 provide for private contracts for transcripts of testimony for matters not on appeal;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:980(D)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §980. Court reporters for the Thirty-Fourth Judicial District

9 * * *

10 D(1) In all cases on appeal, the reporter shall be paid a fee ~~as determined by~~
11 ~~a majority of the judges en banc which fee shall not to exceed two dollars and~~
12 ~~seventy five cents~~ three dollars for each original ~~thirty-two line~~ page transcribed and
13 where a copy is requested by a litigant, shall furnish such copy and be paid a fee of
14 one dollar and fifty ~~twenty five~~ cents for each page thereof. At the request of any of
15 the party proceedings, or at the order of a district judge, the court reporter shall
16 transcribe all or part of the testimony or other matter taken down and shall furnish
17 as many copies thereof as may be required by law for an appeal. For matters not on
18 appeal, a litigant requesting a transcript of testimony or other matter transcribed shall
19 enter into a private civil contract with the court reporter for the payment of fees
20 applicable to those contracts. Such fees shall be in accordance with fees customarily

1 charged in the judicial district for depositions. The reporter, except when ordered by
2 the judge, shall not be required to file or furnish any transcribed testimony until the
3 transcription fee is paid. If those parties, or the judge, direct the original transcription
4 fee is paid. If those parties, or the judge, direct the original transcription, each party
5 shall pay the expense of transcribing the testimony offered by him. No fee shall be
6 allowed for transcribing matter other than testimony, objections and rulings thereon,
7 bills, notes of evidence, and such other matters as may be ordered by the judge. All
8 such fees shall be paid directly to the court reporter performing the service as
9 additional compensation and shall be taxed as costs.

10 * * *

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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Abstract: Increases the 34th J.D.C. court reporter fees paid for transcripts for all cases on appeal and authorizes contracts for certain transcripts.

Present law provides that in all cases in the 34th J.D.C., the court reporter shall be paid a fee as determined by a majority of the judges en banc which fee shall not exceed \$2.75 for each original 32-line page transcribed and where a copy is requested by a litigant, shall furnish such copy and be paid a fee for each page of the transcript.

Proposed law removes present law relative to a majority of the judges determining the amount of the fee.

Proposed law specifies that for all cases on appeal, the reporter shall be paid a fee not to exceed \$3 for each page transcribed and increases from 25¢ to \$1.50 the per page fee paid by a litigant requesting a copy of the transcript.

Proposed law provides that for matters not on appeal, a litigant requesting a transcript of testimony shall enter into a fee-based private civil contract with the court reporter, which fees shall be in accordance with fees customarily charged in the judicial district for depositions.

(Amends R.S. 13:980(D)(1))