

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 224

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

COURTS/COURT COSTS: Provides with respect to court costs collected on civil filings to fund the Judicial College

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 13:86 and to repeal R.S. 13:126.1, 352.1, 841.3, 1213.3, 1912, 2157.1, 2500.5,
3 2520, and 2565, relative to court costs; to provide relative to court costs collected for
4 civil filings and criminal convictions; to provide for the use of proceeds of such
5 costs; to provide for an audit; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:86 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §86. Judicial College; education account; sources of funds

9 A. In addition to any other filing fee or cost imposed or authorized by law,
10 the clerk of the Supreme Court and each city, parish, juvenile, family, district, and
11 appellate court shall impose and collect from each party liable for court costs the
12 additional sum of fifty cents for the initial filing in all civil matters.

13 B. In addition to the costs provided for in Subsection A of this Section, a
14 person convicted of a felony, a misdemeanor, or violating an ordinance of any local
15 government, including a traffic felony, traffic misdemeanor, or a local traffic
16 violation, shall be assessed an additional fifty cents as a special court cost. These
17 costs shall be imposed by all courts, including mayor's courts and magistrate courts.

18 C. All funds collected pursuant to this Section shall be deposited into a
19 special account and transmitted monthly to the Louisiana Supreme Court in the
20 manner and form specified by the Supreme Court and shall be used to defray the

1 costs associated with the general growth and program improvement strategies of the
2 Judicial College. The Supreme Court shall conduct an annual audit of the books and
3 accounts relating to the funds collected pursuant to this Section, and shall file the
4 audit with the legislative auditor where it shall be available for public inspection.

5 Section 2. R.S. 13:126.1, 352.1, 841.3, 1213.3, 1912, 2157.1, 2500.5, 2520, and
6 2565 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

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)]

HB 224 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Expands the applicability of an existing 50¢ court cost to include all initial civil filings and criminal convictions, including traffic offenses, with the proceeds funding the Judicial College.

Present law requires the collection of an additional court cost in the amount of 50¢ to be collected by the Supreme Court, appellate courts, district courts, parish courts, and city courts, upon civil filings and traffic matters, with exceptions for some juvenile and family matters. Requires the costs collected to be used to defray the costs associated with the growth and program improvement of the Judicial College. Present law is contained in nine separate provisions of law, one for each court collecting the cost.

Proposed law repeals the nine provisions of law and consolidates them into one provision and retains the present law amount to be collected. Provides that the 50¢ cost shall be collected for the initial filing in all civil matters, with no exceptions, and provides that the 50¢ cost shall be assessed as court costs for criminal convictions, including traffic offenses. Requires an annual audit of the funds.

(Adds R.S. 13:86; Repeals R.S. 13:126.1, 352.1, 841.3, 1213.3, 1912, 2157.1, 2500.5, 2520, and 2565)