

Regular Session, 2003

SENATE BILL NO. 253

BY SENATOR DARDENNE

COURTS. Provides that any new court cost or fee or increase in an existing court cost or fee first be submitted to the Judicial Council for review and recommendation to the legislature. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 1-C of Title 13 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
3 to be comprised of R.S. 13:61, relative to court costs and fees; to  
4 provide that any new court cost or fee or increase in an existing court  
5 cost or fee first be submitted to the Judicial Council for review and  
6 recommendation; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for  
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. Chapter 1-C of Title 13 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes  
10 of 1950, comprised of R.S. 13:61, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 CHAPTER 1-C. STUDY OF COURT COSTS AND FEES

12 Chapter 1-C is all proposed new law.

13 §61. Court costs and fees; submission to Judicial Council;  
14 recommendation

15 A. As used in this Section, the following words have the

1 meanings ascribed to them unless the context requires otherwise:

2 (1) “Court cost and fee” means a cost or fee paid, or to be paid,  
3 by a person to the clerk of court or sheriff, or other law enforcement  
4 official responsible for receiving the payment of costs or fees collected  
5 as a part of the imposition or execution of a criminal sentence, in  
6 connection with the filing or processing of any civil or criminal matter,  
7 or the filing or processing of any pleading in any civil or criminal  
8 matter or in connection with the imposition or execution of a sentence  
9 by a court having criminal jurisdiction, in a court of limited or general  
10 jurisdiction.

11 (2) “Court of limited or general jurisdiction” means district  
12 court, family court, juvenile court, city court, parish court, municipal  
13 court, mayor’s court, and traffic court.

14 B. No law to provide for a new court cost or fee or to increase  
15 an existing court cost or fee shall be enacted unless first submitted to  
16 the Judicial Council for review and recommendation to the legislature.  
17 A copy of the proposal for a new or increased court cost or fee shall be  
18 provided to the legislature, through the clerk of the House of  
19 Representatives and the secretary of the Senate, at the time it is  
20 submitted to the Judicial Council for review.

21 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the  
22 governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills  
23 to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III,  
24 Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and  
25 subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on  
26 the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tom Wade.

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#### DIGEST

Proposed law provides that legislation to enact a new court cost or fee or to increase an existing court cost or fee first must be submitted to the Judicial Council for review and recommendation to the legislature. Provides that a copy of the proposal must be provided to the legislature, through the clerk of the House of Representatives and the secretary of the Senate, at the time it is submitted to the Judicial Council for review.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 13:61)