

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 20

BY REPRESENTATIVE FARNUM

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

COURTS/COURT COSTS: Provides relative to court costs for the City Court of Lake Charles

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:2080.1(A), relative to costs in the City Court of Lake Charles;  
3 to provide for disposition of certain court costs; to authorize the use of additional  
4 court costs in civil and criminal matters for operational costs; to provide for an  
5 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:2080.1(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §2080.1. Miscellaneous city courts; fees; surplus in civil fee account

9 A.(1) The City Court of Lake Charles may impose an additional five-dollar  
10 fee as court costs in civil and criminal cases. The costs collected pursuant to this  
11 Subsection shall be deposited in the general fund for the city and shall be used for  
12 capital improvements for the building housing the city court.

13 (2) The city court may also use the surplus of court costs for operational  
14 costs until December 31, 2024.

15 \* \* \*

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

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**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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HB 20 Engrossed

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Farnum

**Abstract:** Authorizes the use of additional court costs in civil and criminal matters for operational costs.

Present law allows the City Court of Lake Charles to impose an additional five-dollar fee as court costs in civil and criminal cases.

Present law requires the additional costs to be deposited into the general fund for the city and used for capital improvements for the building housing the city court.

Proposed law authorizes the additional costs to be used for operational costs for a designated period.

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

(Amends R.S. 13:2080.1(A))