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## DIGEST

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HB 123 Reengrossed

2025 Regular Session

Carlson

**Abstract:** Provides for the time within which governmental entities are required to pay court costs.

Present law provides that the state, any political subdivision, and any agent, officer, or employee of any such governmental entity when acting within the scope and authority of such employment or when discharging his official duties may temporarily defer court costs.

Proposed law provides that "court costs" include costs, user fees, and recording fees charged by each clerk of court or third-party vendor for electronic filing of civil and criminal pleadings, fees for electronic filing of documents, and related convenience, transaction, or service fees for electronic filings.

Present law provides that it shall be the responsibility of the governmental entities who temporarily defer costs as set forth in present law to pay any deferred costs assessed against them or their agents, officers, or employees within 30 days of the judgment becoming final or to assist in the collection of court costs due by the opposing litigants by requesting the court to tax costs in accordance with present law.

Proposed law removes the 30-day period within which to pay the deferred court costs and further provides that when a judgment is rendered against the state, political subdivision, or agent, officer, or employee thereof, the costs shall not be payable to the clerk of court or third-party vendor until the judgment becomes final and definitive under the provisions of present law or is otherwise nonappealable or nonreviewable, and until all issues in the judicial proceeding are adjudicated.

(Amends R.S. 13:4521(B); Adds R.S. 13:4521(A)(6))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Provide that costs charged by third-party vendors are included in the definition of "court costs".

### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Provide that court costs shall not be payable to a third-party vendor until the judgment becomes final and definitive.

