

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 123

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 13:4521(B) and to enact R.S. 13:4521(A)(6), relative to deferral
3 of costs and fees associated with electronic filing requirements; to provide for
4 definitions; to provide relative to periods within which to pay court costs; and to
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 13:4521(B) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 13:4521(A)(6)
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §4521. State and its subdivisions; temporary deferral of court costs; exceptions

10 A.

11 * * *

12 (6) As the term is used in this Section, "court costs" include costs, user fees,
13 and recording fees charged by each clerk of court or third party vendor for electronic
14 filing of civil and criminal pleadings authorized by R.S. 13:754, fees for electronic
15 filing of documents authorized by R.S. 13:841 and Code of Civil Procedure Article
16 253(B), and related convenience, transaction, or service fees for electronic filings.

17 B. Except when the law imposes personal responsibility for costs on the
18 agent, officers, or employees, it shall be the responsibility of the governmental
19 entities who temporarily defer costs as set forth in this Section to pay any deferred
20 costs assessed against them or their agents, officers, or employees, ~~within thirty days~~
21 ~~of the judgment becoming final~~ or to assist in the collection of court costs due by the
22 opposing litigants by requesting the court to tax costs in accordance with the

1 provisions of Article 1920 of the Code of Civil Procedure by requesting that the
 2 court include the cost assessment in a judgment dismissing a claim against the
 3 governmental entity or any agent, officer, or employee thereof. When a judgment
 4 is rendered against the state, political subdivision, or agent, officer, or employee
 5 thereof, the costs shall not be payable to the clerk of court or third-party vendor until
 6 the judgment becomes final and definitive under the provisions of Articles 2166 and
 7 2167 of the Code of Civil Procedure or otherwise nonappealable or nonreviewable,
 8 and until all issues in the judicial proceeding are adjudicated. The state, political
 9 subdivision, or agent, officer, or employee thereof shall withhold any court costs due
 10 by the opposing litigants from any settlement payment made to the parties and shall
 11 forward such costs to the clerk of court.

12 * * *

 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____