

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 533

BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT

COURTS: Requires the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to transfer certain monies into the criminal court fund of the 22nd Judicial District Court

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:255(AA), relative to costs of court; to provide for the transfer of certain
3 surplus monies in the Twenty-Second Judicial District Court; to provide for
4 definitions; to provide for use of the monies; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 15:255(AA) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §255. Witness fees to off-duty law enforcement officers

8 * * *

9 AA. In the Twenty-Second Judicial District, surplus monies in the special
10 fund in St. Tammany Parish at the end of each calendar year shall be transmitted by
11 the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to the criminal court fund of the
12 Twenty-Second Judicial District Court. As used in this Subsection, "special fund"
13 means the special fund provided for in Subsection D of this Section, and "surplus
14 monies" means the amount of money which is in the special fund at the end of each
15 calendar year and which is in excess of the total amount paid from the special fund
16 as witness fees for off-duty law enforcement officers in that calendar year. The
17 surplus monies which are required to be transferred by this Subsection may be used
18 for any purpose the other monies in the criminal court fund of the Twenty-Second
19 Judicial District Court may be used. No money obligated to be paid to any officer

1 or agency for an off-duty law enforcement court appearance shall be considered
2 surplus monies pursuant to this Subsection.

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 533 Engrossed

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Abstract: Requires the local governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to transfer surplus witness fees from the special fund in St. Tammany Parish to the criminal court fund of the 22nd Judicial District Court (JDC).

Present law requires the collection of court costs, known as "witness fees" to pay off-duty law enforcement officers appearing as a witness in a criminal case or delinquency proceeding. Requires each judicial district to establish a schedule of witness fees, which are placed in a special fund and administered by the parish governing authority.

Proposed law requires the governing authority of St. Tammany Parish to transfer surplus monies in the special fund in St. Tammany Parish to the criminal court fund of the 22nd JDC at the end of each calendar year.

(Adds R.S. 15:255(AA))