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## DIGEST

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HB 538 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Freiberg

**Abstract:** Increases the maximum additional civil filing fee in the Juvenile Court of East Baton Rouge Parish from \$15 to \$75 and replaces the chief judge with the judges of the court, sitting en banc, for purposes of administering the judicial expense fund.

Present law requires the clerk of court for the 19th Judicial District to collect certain additional court costs in civil matters filed in the Juvenile Court of East Baton Rouge Parish in an amount determined by the chief judge, not to exceed \$15, and to collect certain additional costs in criminal nonsupport cases, not to exceed \$10.

Present law provides for the deposit of such monies into a judicial expense fund for the Juvenile Court, subject to the control of the chief judge, and provides for the use and annual audit of the fund.

Proposed law retains present law but increases the maximum amount of the additional civil filing fee from \$15 to \$75 and replaces references to the chief judge with the judges of the court, sitting en banc, for purposes of determining the amount of fees, controlling and administering the judicial expense fund, and conducting the required annual audit.

Present law prohibits payment of judicial salaries from the fund.

Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 13:1631)