SENATE BILL NO. 120

BY SENATOR MARTINY

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 13:2563.5(B) and 2563.17(A) through (C), and to enact R.S.
3	13:2563.5(C), relative to certain judicial salaries; to provide for the payment of a
4	judge's salary in Ascension Parish; to require the appropriation of amounts sufficient
5	to fully fund the operations of the Parish Court in Ascension Parish; to provide with
6	respect to the disposition of fees deposited into the Ascension Parish Judicial
7	Expense Fund; to provide with respect to authority of the judge of the Ascension
8	Parish Court with regard to the Ascension Parish Judicial Expense Fund; and to
9	provide for related matters.
10	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
11	Section 1. R.S. 13:2563.5(B) and 2563.17(A) through (C) are hereby amended and
12	reenacted and R.S. 13:2563.5(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
13	§2563.5. Judge; qualifications and salary
14	* * *
15	B. He shall receive an annual salary of not less than sixty-eight thousand five
16	hundred twenty-two dollars, payable monthly on his own warrant by the state of
17	Louisiana, the parish of Ascension, the municipalities within the parish of Ascension,
18	and the judicial expense fund for the Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension,
19	apportioned as follows:
20	(1) The state of Louisiana shall pay the sum of forty-four thousand two
21	hundred sixty-five dollars per annum, subject to the increases mandated by R.S.
22	<u>13:50</u> .
23	(2) The parish of Ascension shall pay the sum of seven thousand one hundred
24	ten dollars per annum.
25	(3) The municipalities of Donaldsonville and Gonzales shall each pay the
26	sum of seven thousand one hundred ten dollars per annum.

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(4)(3) Any other municipality within the parish of Ascension shall each pay
the sum of two thousand nine hundred twenty-seven dollars per annum.

(5)(4) The judicial expense fund for the Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension shall pay an amount equal to the difference between the total salary of the judge as specified in Paragraphs (1) through (4)(3) of this Subsection and the salary of a district court judge of the judicial district in which the parish court is located.

C. The governing authority of Ascension Parish shall annually appropriate from the parish general fund and the Ascension Parish Judicial Expense Fund amounts sufficient to fully fund the operations of the parish court, which shall include the salaries and benefits of the parish judge and the parish court's employees.

* * *

§2563.17. Judicial expense fund Fees; Judicial Expense Fund; Probation Fund; established

A. In all criminal cases over which the court has jurisdiction, there shall be taxed as costs against every defendant who is convicted after trial or after a plea of guilty or who forfeits his bond, a sum determined by the judge of the parish court, which sum shall not exceed fifteen dollars, which shall be in addition to all other fines, costs or forfeitures lawfully imposed and which shall be transmitted to the clerk of court for further disposition in accordance herewith on a monthly basis to the chief financial officer of Ascension Parish, hereinafter referred to as "chief financial officer", for deposit into the Judicial Expense Fund. Any bench warrant fees collected by the court from a defendant shall also be transmitted to the clerk of court for further disposition in accordance herewith chief financial officer for deposit into the Judicial Expense Fund.

B. The clerk of court chief financial officer shall place all sums collected or received under Subsection A of this Section in a separate account to be designated as the Judicial Expense Fund for the Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension. The judge of the parish court governing authority of Ascension Parish shall have control over the fund and all disbursements made therefrom. He₂ shall cause to be

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conducted annually an audit of the fund and the books and accounts relating thereto, and shall file the same <u>audit</u> with the office of the legislative auditor where it shall be available for public inspection.

C. The judicial expense fund is established and may be used for any purpose or purposes connected with, incidental to, or related to the proper administration or function of the said court or the offices of the judge, and is in addition to any and all other funds, salaries, expenses, or other monies that are now or hereafter provided, authorized, or established by law for any of the aforesaid purposes. However, no salary shall be paid from the judicial expense fund to the judge, except the judge appointed temporarily under the provisions of R.S. 13:2563.9 and as provided in R.S. 13:2563.5(B)(5)(4) and (C).

APPROVED:

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Section 2. The provisions of Section 1 shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA