

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 553 by Representative Foil

COURTS/COURT COSTS: Provides for the disbursement of court costs collected in criminal cases

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Added provision requiring the payment of off duty law enforcement witness fees to be paid by the party issuing the subpoena in the city of New Orleans.
2. Deleted provision requiring judges in the city of New Orleans to adopt a schedule of court costs regarding the payment of witness fees.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law requires the person or agency responsible for receiving court fines, fees, costs, assessments, and forfeitures to distribute them monthly with an itemized detail of the source of the funds.

Present law provides that off-duty law enforcement officers shall be paid \$50 per day per case when their presence is required in certain cases. Provides that these witness fees shall be paid from court costs collected for such purpose.

Present law requires, in the city of New Orleans, the Civil Service Commission to establish rules for the payment of witness fees to law enforcement officers. Further provides that the officer's employing agency shall be paid from court costs collected for such purpose.

Proposed law provides that the witness fees shall be paid by the party issuing the subpoena requiring the presence of the officer.

Present law requires the judge or judges for the district court where the parish, or city of New Orleans, is situated to adopt a schedule of costs that shall be applicable in each case before the court.

Proposed law removes the city of New Orleans from present law.

(Amends R.S. 15:255(A)(2) and (D)(1); Adds R.S. 13:848.1)