

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 325

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARNOLD

INDIGENT DEFENSE: Increases the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each judicial district court for the district indigent defender fund

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:168(B)(1), relative to the judicial district indigent defender
3 fund; to increase the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each judicial district
4 court for the district indigent defender fund; to provide for effectiveness; and to
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:168(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §168. Judicial district indigent defender fund

9 * * *

10 B.(1) Every court of original criminal jurisdiction, except in the town of
11 Jonesville, in the city of Plaquemine, and in mayors' courts in municipalities having
12 a population of less than five thousand, shall remit the following special costs to the
13 district indigent defender fund for the following violations, under state statute as well
14 as under parish or municipal ordinance, except a parking violation. The sum of
15 ~~thirty-five~~ fifty dollars shall be assessed in cases in which a defendant is convicted
16 after a trial, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or after forfeiting bond and shall be
17 in addition to all other fines, costs, or forfeitures imposed. The court cost of fifty
18 dollars authorized by the provisions of this Subsection shall expire on August 1,
19 2014, and thereafter the court cost authorized by the provisions of this Subsection
20 shall be thirty-five dollars.

21 * * *

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)]

Arnold

HB No. 325

Abstract: Increases the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each district court for the district indigent defender fund, and provides that such increase shall be effective until Aug. 1, 2014.

Present law provides for the assessment of a \$35 special cost in each district court in all criminal cases where the defendant has been convicted, has plead guilty or nolo contendere, or has forfeited bond. Provides for the use and administration of such funds by the district public defender.

Proposed law increases the special cost from \$35 to \$50, and provides that the increased cost shall expire on Aug. 1, 2014. Thereafter, the cost shall be \$35 as provided for in present law.

(Amends R.S. 15:168(B)(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill.

1. Decreased proposed law court cost amount from \$55 to \$50.
2. Added provision requiring the increased cost to expire on Aug. 1, 2014.