
DIGEST

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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 \$45, and provides that the increased cost shall expire on Aug. 1, 2014. Thereafter, the cost shall be \$35 as provided for in present law.

Proposed law requires the La. Public Defender Board to provide a report to the legislature prior to the 2014 R.S. which details how the funds provided for in proposed law were utilized.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(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.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Added provision which provides that proposed law is effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

2. Decreased the proposed law court cost amount from \$50 to \$45.
3. Added provision which requires the La. Public Defender Board to provide a report to the legislature which details how the proposed law funds were utilized.