

Prior law provided 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. Provided for the use and administration of such funds by the district public defender.

New law increases the special cost from \$35 to \$45, and provides that the increased cost shall expire on Aug. 1, 2016. Thereafter, the cost shall be \$35 as provided for in prior law.

New law requires the La. Public Defender Board to provide a report to the legislature prior to the 2016 R.S. which details how the funds provided for in new law were utilized.

New law requires mayors' courts who are required to assess the special cost pursuant to prior law to continue to assess the court cost in the prior law amount of \$35 after the effective date of new law.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 7, 2012).

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