DIGEST

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HB 224 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Expands the applicability of an existing 50¢ court cost to include all initial civil filings and criminal convictions, including traffic offenses, with the proceeds funding the Judicial College.

<u>Present law</u> requires the collection of an additional court cost in the amount of 50¢ to be collected by the Supreme Court, appellate courts, district courts, parish courts, and city courts, upon civil filings and traffic matters, with exceptions for some juvenile and family matters. Requires the costs collected to be used to defray the costs associated with the growth and program improvement of the Judicial College. <u>Present law</u> is contained in nine separate provisions of law, one for each court collecting the cost.

<u>Proposed law</u> repeals the nine provisions of law and consolidates them into one provision and retains the <u>present law</u> amount to be collected. Provides that the 50ϕ cost shall be collected for the initial filing in all civil matters, with no exceptions, and provides that the 50ϕ cost shall be assessed as court costs for criminal convictions, including traffic offenses. Requires an annual audit of the funds.

(Adds R.S. 13:86; Repeals R.S. 13:126.1, 352.1, 841.3, 1213.3, 1912, 2157.1, 2500.5, 2520, and 2565)