

HB478 ENROLLED



1 HB478
2 ILE8666-2
3 By Representative Hammett (N & P)
4 RFD: Local Legislation
5 First Read: 23-Apr-24



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 Relating to Covington County; to provide for a booking
4 fee to be imposed on each person booked into the Covington
5 County Detention Center and subsequently convicted of a crime;
6 to provide for the collection of the booking fee; and to
7 provide for the distribution of the revenues derived from the
8 booking fee.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. In Covington County, a booking fee in the
11 amount of thirty dollars (\$30) shall be assessed against and
12 collected from each person booked or incarcerated in the
13 Covington County Detention Center as a county inmate and
14 subsequently convicted. The fee assessed pursuant to this act
15 shall be in addition to any fines, court costs, or other
16 charges imposed. The fee shall not apply to a defendant or
17 inmate housed in the detention center on behalf of a
18 municipality.

19 Section 2. The booking fee imposed by this act shall be
20 assessed against a defendant upon conviction by a court of law
21 where the defendant is convicted. The clerk of the court shall
22 enter the amount of the fee as provided in this act on the
23 docket sheet and shall collect the fee in the same manner and
24 the same time as court costs, except the sheriff may collect
25 the fee pursuant to Section 5. The clerk of the court shall
26 notify the sheriff monthly of the booking fees imposed against
27 defendants during the prior month.

28 Section 3. The revenues derived from the booking fee



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29 shall be submitted to the Covington County Sheriff's
30 Department Law Enforcement Fund to be used by the Sheriff of
31 Covington County for jail operations including, but not
32 limited to, training fees, salaries, equipment, jail
33 operational expenses, or other law enforcement uses as
34 determined by the sheriff to best meet the needs of his or her
35 agency.

36 Section 4. In any case where the booking fee provided
37 by this act is not paid or withheld pursuant to Section 5, the
38 district attorney of the county may assist in the collection
39 of the fees in the same manner as court-ordered monies. In
40 addition, the sheriff may contract for the collection of the
41 fees and pay a portion of the fees as a cost for collection.

42 Section 5. Upon receipt of notice of assessment of the
43 booking fee against a defendant, the sheriff may withhold
44 funds equal to the amount of the booking fee from any funds
45 held while a person is incarcerated in the Covington County
46 Detention Center and those funds may be applied toward any
47 assessment of a booking fee pursuant to this act. The sheriff
48 shall provide notice monthly to the clerk of the court of the
49 booking fees withheld from defendants during the prior month.

50 Section 6. Any revenues derived from this act shall be
51 in addition to other funding sources for the Covington County
52 Detention Center and the Covington County Sheriff's Department
53 and shall not reduce or replace any funding from any other
54 sources.

55 Section 7. This act shall become effective on the first
56 day of the first month following the ratification of an



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57 amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, proposed at
58 the 2024 Regular Session, authorizing the Legislature to
59 provide for additional court costs in Covington County and to
60 provide for the distribution of the proceeds.

