

HOUSE BILL No. 1087

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 33-37-2-3.

Synopsis: Payment of court fees. Allows a court to reduce some or all of the court costs owed by a person who performs community service or uncompensated volunteer work by: (1) determining the number of hours of community service or volunteer work performed by the person; (2) multiplying the number of hours worked by the Indiana minimum wage; and (3) deducting that figure from the amount owed.

Effective: July 1, 2019.

**Pressel, McNamara, Heaton,
Hatfield**

January 3, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code.



First Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2019)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2018 Regular and Special Session of the General Assembly.

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning courts and court officers.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 33-37-2-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2007,
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), when
4 the court imposes costs, it shall conduct a hearing to determine whether
5 the convicted person is indigent. If the person is not indigent, the court
6 shall order the person to pay:
7 (1) the entire amount of the costs at the time sentence is
8 pronounced;
9 (2) the entire amount of the costs at some later date; ~~or~~
10 (3) specified parts of the costs at designated intervals; ~~or~~
11 **(4) the entire amount of the costs at some later date, less any**
12 **amount credited under subsection (g) for the performance of:**
13 **(A) community service work ordered by the court; or**
14 **(B) uncompensated volunteer work at a nonprofit or**
15 **municipal corporation that benefits the community, even**
16 **if the volunteer work is not ordered by the court.**
17 (b) A court may impose costs and suspend payment of all or part of



1 the costs until the convicted person has completed all or part of the
 2 sentence. If the court suspends payment of the costs, the court shall
 3 conduct a hearing at the time the costs are due to determine whether the
 4 convicted person is indigent. If the convicted person is not indigent, the
 5 court shall order the convicted person to pay the costs:

6 (1) at the time the costs are due; or

7 (2) in a manner set forth in subsection (a)(2) through ~~(a)(3)~~;

8 **(a)(4).**

9 (c) If a court suspends payment of costs under subsection (b), the
 10 court retains jurisdiction over the convicted person until the convicted
 11 person has paid the entire amount of the costs.

12 (d) Upon any default in the payment of the costs:

13 (1) an attorney representing the county may bring an action on a
 14 debt for the unpaid amount;

15 (2) the court may direct that the person, if the person is not
 16 indigent, be committed to the county jail and credited toward
 17 payment at the rate of twenty dollars (\$20) for each twenty-four
 18 (24) hour period the person is confined, until the amount paid
 19 plus the amount credited equals the entire amount due; or

20 (3) the court may institute contempt proceedings to enforce the
 21 court's order for payment of the costs.

22 (e) If, after a hearing under subsection (a) or (b), the court
 23 determines that a convicted person is able to pay part of the costs of
 24 representation, the court shall order the person to pay an amount of not
 25 more than the cost of the defense services rendered on behalf of the
 26 person. The clerk shall deposit the amount paid by a convicted person
 27 under this subsection in the county's supplemental public defender
 28 services fund established under IC 33-40-3-1.

29 (f) A person ordered to pay part of the cost of representation under
 30 subsection (e) has the same rights and protections as those of other
 31 judgment debtors under the Constitution of the State of Indiana and
 32 Indiana law.

33 **(g) A court may reduce some or all of the costs owed by a person
 34 who has satisfactorily performed court ordered community service
 35 work or regularly performed uncompensated volunteer work at a
 36 nonprofit or municipal corporation that benefits the community,
 37 even if the volunteer work is not ordered by a court. The maximum
 38 reduction shall be determined as follows:**

39 **STEP ONE: Determine the number of hours of community
 40 service work satisfactorily performed or uncompensated
 41 volunteer work regularly performed by the person.**

42 **STEP TWO: Multiply the number determined in STEP ONE**



1 by the amount of the Indiana minimum wage established
2 under IC 22-2-2.
3 **STEP THREE: Subtract the product determined under STEP**
4 **TWO from the costs owed by the person.**
5 **A person's costs may not be reduced below zero (0).**
6 **(h) For purposes of subsection (g), work is "regularly**
7 **performed" if all of the following requirements are met:**
8 **(1) The person works for at least twenty (20) hours in a sixty**
9 **(60) day period.**
10 **(2) The person works at least two (2) hours per week.**

