

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 213

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON

COURTS/COURT COSTS: Provides relative to the transfer of surplus monies in the Fourth JDC

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 13:3049(B)(1)(e)(vii) and R.S. 15:255(T), relative to costs of court; to provide
3 relative to witness fees for off-duty law enforcement officers; to provide relative to
4 juror compensation; to authorize the transfer of witness fee surplus funds and juror
5 compensation surplus funds within the Fourth Judicial District; to provide for the
6 transfer procedures and use of funds; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 13:3049(B)(1)(e)(vii) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §3049. Cash deposit; bond; duty to attend; compensation; procedure; filing fees

10 * * *

11 B.(1)

12 * * *

13 (e)

14 * * *

15 (vii)(aa) Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, all surplus monies
16 in the special fund of each parish within the Fourth Judicial District at the end of
17 each calendar year shall be transmitted by the governing authority of each parish to
18 the Fourth Judicial District Court for deposit into the judicial expense fund.

19 (bb) As used in this Item, "special fund" means the special fund provided for
20 in this Subparagraph, and "surplus monies" means the amount of money that is in

1 each special fund at the end of each calendar year and that is in excess of the total
2 amount paid for jury fees in that calendar year. No money obligated to be paid to
3 any juror as a fee or cost for attendance for jury duty shall be considered surplus
4 money pursuant to this Item.

5 (cc) All surplus monies transferred to the Fourth Judiciary District Court's
6 judicial expense fund pursuant to this Item shall be transferred no later than January
7 thirty-first of each calendar year and may be used for the same purposes as the
8 existing funds in the judicial expense fund.

9 * * *

10 Section 2. R.S. 15:255(T) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §255. Witness fees to off-duty law enforcement officers

12 * * *

13 T. In the Fourth Judicial District, all surplus monies in the special fund in
14 each of the parishes in that district shall be transmitted by the governing authorities
15 of those parishes to the judicial expense fund of the Fourth Judicial District Court
16 no later than January thirty-first of each calendar year. As used in this Subsection,
17 "special fund" means the special fund provided for in Subsection D of this Section,
18 and "surplus monies" means the amount of money which is in each special fund at
19 the end of each calendar year and which is in excess of the total amount paid from
20 each special fund as witness fees for off-duty law enforcement officers in that
21 calendar year. The surplus monies which are required to be transferred by this
22 Subsection may be used for any purpose for which the other monies in the judicial
23 expense fund of the Fourth Judicial District Court may be used. No money obligated
24 to be paid to any officer or agency for an off-duty law enforcement court appearance
25 shall be considered surplus monies pursuant to this Subsection.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 213 Original

2018 Regular Session

Jackson

Abstract: Requires any surplus witness and juror fees collected by the 4th Judicial District to be transferred to the judicial expense fund.

Present law requires the district court judge or judges for each judicial district to adopt a schedule of costs to be applied to each case before the court. These costs shall be placed in special funds (separately, a juror fund and a witness fund) to be maintained by the proper governing authorities and used to pay witness and juror fees.

Proposed law requires all surplus money in the special accounts to be transferred to the judicial expense fund. The transferred money may be used for any purpose for which the other monies in the judicial expense fund of the 4th Judicial District may be used. Surplus monies must be transferred not later than January 31st of each calendar year.

(R.S. 13:3049(B)(1)(e)(vii); Adds R.S. 15:255(T))