

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

**S.F. No. 4491**

(SENATE AUTHORS: KUNESH)

DATE  
04/19/2022

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to court fees; exempting the Office of Ombudsperson for American Indian  
1.3 Families from court fee requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 2021  
1.4 Supplement, section 357.021, subdivision 1a.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 357.021, subdivision 1a, is  
1.7 amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 1a. **Transmittal of fees to commissioner of management and budget.** (a) Every  
1.9 person, including the state of Minnesota and all bodies politic and corporate, who shall  
1.10 transact any business in the district court, shall pay to the court administrator of said court  
1.11 the sundry fees prescribed in subdivision 2. Except as provided in paragraph (d), the court  
1.12 administrator shall transmit the fees monthly to the commissioner of management and budget  
1.13 for deposit in the state treasury and credit to the general fund. \$30 of each fee collected in  
1.14 a dissolution action under subdivision 2, clause (1), must be deposited by the commissioner  
1.15 of management and budget in the special revenue fund and is appropriated to the  
1.16 commissioner of employment and economic development for the Minnesota Family  
1.17 Resiliency Partnership under section 116L.96.

1.18 (b) In a county which has a screener-collector position, fees paid by a county pursuant  
1.19 to this subdivision shall be transmitted monthly to the county treasurer, who shall apply the  
1.20 fees first to reimburse the county for the amount of the salary paid for the screener-collector  
1.21 position. The balance of the fees collected shall then be forwarded to the commissioner of  
1.22 management and budget for deposit in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

1.23 In a county in a judicial district under section 480.181, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), which

2.1 has a screener-collector position, the fees paid by a county shall be transmitted monthly to  
2.2 the commissioner of management and budget for deposit in the state treasury and credited  
2.3 to the general fund. A screener-collector position for purposes of this paragraph is an  
2.4 employee whose function is to increase the collection of fines and to review the incomes  
2.5 of potential clients of the public defender, in order to verify eligibility for that service.

2.6 (c) No fee is required under this section from the public authority or the party the public  
2.7 authority represents in an action for:

2.8 (1) child support enforcement or modification, medical assistance enforcement, or  
2.9 establishment of parentage in the district court, or in a proceeding under section 484.702;

2.10 (2) civil commitment under chapter 253B;

2.11 (3) the appointment of a public conservator or public guardian or any other action under  
2.12 chapters 252A and 525;

2.13 (4) wrongfully obtaining public assistance under section 256.98 or 256D.07, or recovery  
2.14 of overpayments of public assistance;

2.15 (5) court relief under chapters 260, 260A, 260B, and 260C;

2.16 (6) forfeiture of property under sections 169A.63 and 609.531 to 609.5317;

2.17 (7) recovery of amounts issued by political subdivisions or public institutions under  
2.18 sections 246.52, 252.27, 256.045, 256.25, 256.87, 256B.042, 256B.14, 256B.15, 256B.37,  
2.19 260B.331, and 260C.331, or other sections referring to other forms of public assistance;

2.20 (8) restitution under section 611A.04; or

2.21 (9) actions seeking monetary relief in favor of the state pursuant to section 16D.14,  
2.22 subdivision 5.

2.23 (d) \$20 from each fee collected for child support modifications under subdivision 2,  
2.24 clause (13), must be transmitted to the county treasurer for deposit in the county general  
2.25 fund and \$35 from each fee shall be credited to the state general fund. The fees must be  
2.26 used by the county to pay for child support enforcement efforts by county attorneys.

2.27 (e) No fee is required under this section from the Office of Ombudsperson for American  
2.28 Indian Families or any federally recognized Indian Tribe or its representative in an action  
2.29 for:

2.30 (1) child support enforcement or modification, medical assistance enforcement, or  
2.31 establishment of parentage in the district court or in a proceeding under section 484.702;

- 3.1 (2) civil commitment under chapter 253B;
- 3.2 (3) the appointment of a public conservator or public guardian or any other action under
- 3.3 chapters 252A and 525; or
- 3.4 (4) court relief under chapters 256, 257, 260, 260A, 260B, 260C, and 260D, and 518,
- 3.5 and sections 524.5-201 to 524.5-317.