

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
5 FOR ENGROSSED  
6 SENATE BILL NO. 694

By: Thompson of the Senate

and

Kannady of the House

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10                                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11                   An Act relating to court funds; amending 12 O.S.  
12                   2011, Section 1809, as amended by Section 1, Chapter  
13                   362, O.S.L. 2016 (12 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1809),  
14                   which relates to collection and disposition of court  
15                   costs and fees; removing fee for certain dispute  
16                   resolution services; modifying fund for certain  
17                   deposits; creating Dispute Resolution System  
18                   Revolving Fund; making funds nonfiscal; stating  
19                   source of revenue; stating purpose of fund; amending  
20                   20 O.S. 2011, Sections 72, 73.5, 1310.1, as last  
21                   amended by Section 2, Chapter 12, O.S.L. 2017 and  
22                   1507 (20 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1310.1), which  
23                   relate to quarterly accounting, copies of opinions,  
24                   Supreme Court Revolving Fund and deposit of fees;  
                  modifying fund for certain deposits; modifying  
                  authorized deposits and expenditures for certain  
                  fund; modifying fund for certain deposits; making  
                  language gender neutral; updating statutory language;  
                  amending 28 O.S. 2011, Section 152, as last amended  
                  by Section 3, Chapter 362, O.S.L. 2016 (28 O.S. Supp.  
                  2018, Section 152), which relates to filing fees in  
                  civil cases; modifying fund for certain deposits;  
                  providing for codification; providing an effective  
                  date; and declaring an emergency.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 12 O.S. 2011, Section 1809, as  
3 amended by Section 1, Chapter 362, O.S.L. 2016 (12 O.S. Supp. 2018,  
4 Section 1809), is amended to read as follows:

5 Section 1809. A. ~~1.~~ To establish and maintain an alternative  
6 dispute resolution system, court costs in the amount of Seven  
7 Dollars (\$7.00) shall be taxed, collected, and paid as other court  
8 costs in all civil cases. ~~When dispute resolution services are~~  
9 ~~sought, a fee in the amount of Five Dollars (\$5.00) shall be~~  
10 ~~assessed by the center and collected from the initiating party. If~~  
11 ~~the responding party agrees to participate in mediation of the~~  
12 ~~dispute, a fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) shall be assessed by the~~  
13 ~~center and collected from the responding party.~~

14 The fee of an initiating or responding party shall be waived by  
15 the center upon receipt of an affidavit in forma pauperis executed  
16 under oath by such party.

17 ~~2. Except for the court costs and fees provided for in this~~  
18 ~~subsection, dispute resolution services shall be provided without~~  
19 ~~cost to participants.~~

20 B. The court costs and fees provided for in subsection A of  
21 this section, once collected, shall be transferred by the court  
22 clerk to the Director who shall deposit them in the ~~State Judicial~~  
23 Dispute Resolution System Revolving Fund referenced in Section 2 of  
24 this act.

1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1809.1 of Title 12, unless there  
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
5 for the Supreme Court to be designated the "Dispute Resolution  
6 System Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not  
7 subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies  
8 collected pursuant to Section 1809 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma  
9 Statutes. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are hereby  
10 appropriated and shall be budgeted and expended by the Supreme Court  
11 as necessary to perform the duties imposed upon the Supreme Court to  
12 administer the Dispute Resolution Act by law.

13 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 72, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 72. The Clerk of the Supreme Court shall, on the first  
16 Monday of January, April, July and October of each year, make out  
17 and present to the Administrative Director an itemized and verified  
18 report of all fees earned and collected by ~~him~~ the clerk during the  
19 preceding quarter, and shall transfer all monies so earned to the  
20 State Treasurer for deposit in the ~~State Judicial~~ Supreme Court  
21 Revolving Fund.

22 SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 73.5, is  
23 amended to read as follows:

24

1 Section 73.5 From and after ~~the effective date of this act~~  
2 January 1, 1954, the new opinions of the Supreme Court, the Court of  
3 Criminal Appeals and the Court of Appeals shall be promptly  
4 furnished, at a cost of twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per page, to any  
5 person, firm or corporation who shall request same in writing to the  
6 Clerk of the Supreme Court for the purpose of publishing, editing  
7 and binding ~~said~~ the opinions. For any other purpose, other  
8 persons, firms or corporations shall be furnished, upon request in  
9 writing to the Clerk of the Supreme Court, copies of ~~said~~ the  
10 opinions, or any instrument of record or other record filed with the  
11 Clerk of the Supreme Court, at that fee mandated by Section 31 of  
12 Title 28 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for the copying of any instrument  
13 of record or on file. Provided however, ~~said~~ the opinions shall be  
14 furnished free of cost to the litigants involved, and to the  
15 Oklahoma Bar Association for any official publication of ~~said~~ the  
16 Association.

17 All monies collected by the Clerk of the Supreme Court for ~~said~~  
18 the opinions and other copies shall be by ~~said~~ the Clerk deposited  
19 monthly to the credit of the ~~State Judicial~~ Supreme Court Revolving  
20 Fund of the State of Oklahoma.

21 SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 1310.1, as  
22 last amended by Section 2, Chapter 12, O.S.L. 2017 (20 O.S. Supp.  
23 2018, Section 1310.1), is amended to read as follows:  
24

1 Section 1310.1 A. There is hereby created in the State  
2 Treasury a revolving fund for the Supreme Court, to be designated  
3 the "Supreme Court Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing  
4 fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of  
5 monies appropriated by the Legislature for the purposes specified in  
6 this section and fees collected pursuant to Sections 72, 73.5, 1506  
7 and 1707 of this title and paragraph 2 of subsection E of Section  
8 152 of Title 28 of the Oklahoma Statutes. All monies accruing to  
9 the credit of ~~said~~ the fund are hereby appropriated and may be  
10 budgeted and expended by the Supreme Court for refunds to bondsmen  
11 and for the purpose of paying expenses authorized by Section 1809 of  
12 Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes, Sections 103.1, 1311, 1507, 1660  
13 and 1707 of this title, ~~and~~ Sections 562 and 1355.13A of Title 22  
14 and paragraph 2 of subsection E of Section 152 of Title 28 of the  
15 Oklahoma Statutes, and to make any other expenditures determined by  
16 the Supreme Court to be necessary due to unforeseen emergencies  
17 impacting the operation of state courts, as well as recurring and  
18 nonrecurring expenditures to perform the duties imposed upon the  
19 Supreme Court or Court of Civil Appeals by law. Expenditures from  
20 ~~said~~ the fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State  
21 Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the  
22 Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for  
23 approval and payment.

24

1 B. Until June 30, 2018, the Office of Management and Enterprise  
2 Services shall at the request of the Administrative Director of the  
3 Courts, transfer any monies from the Supreme Court Revolving Fund to  
4 the Supreme Court Administrative Revolving Fund or the Interagency  
5 Reimbursement Fund as necessary to perform the duties imposed upon  
6 the Supreme Court, Court of Civil Appeals and district courts by  
7 law.

8 SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 20 O.S. 2011, Section 1507, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 Section 1507. All fees authorized to be charged shall be paid  
11 to the Clerk of the Supreme Court who shall deposit them in the  
12 ~~State Judicial~~ Supreme Court Revolving Fund. The Chief Justice  
13 shall be authorized to draw against the Supreme Court Revolving Fund  
14 such amounts as are lawfully claimed by the Board for its necessary  
15 supplies and expenses. When performing essential duties each Board  
16 member shall be entitled to his or her actual expenses and shall  
17 receive, in addition thereto, the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for  
18 each full day of service or a fraction thereof for less than a day's  
19 service.

20 SECTION 7. AMENDATORY 28 O.S. 2011, Section 152, as last  
21 amended by Section 3, Chapter 362, O.S.L. 2016 (28 O.S. Supp. 2018,  
22 Section 152), is amended to read as follows:

23 Section 152. A. In any civil case filed in a district court,  
24 the court clerk shall collect, at the time of filing, the following

1 flat fees, none of which shall ever be refundable, and which shall  
2 be the only charge for court costs, except as is otherwise  
3 specifically provided for by law:

- 4 1. Actions for divorce, alimony without divorce, separate  
5 maintenance, custody or support.....\$183.00
- 6 2. Any ancillary proceeding to modify or vacate a divorce  
7 decree providing for custody or support.....\$43.00
- 8 3. Probate and guardianship.....\$135.00
- 9 4. Annual guardianship report.....\$33.00
- 10 5. Any proceeding for sale or lease of real or personal  
11 property or mineral interest in probate or guardianship..\$43.00
- 12 6. Any proceeding to revoke the probate of a will...\$43.00
- 13 7. Judicial determination of death.....\$58.00
- 14 8. Adoption.....\$105.00
- 15 9. Civil actions for an amount of Ten Thousand Dollars  
16 (\$10,000.00) or less and condemnation.....\$150.00
- 17 10. Civil actions for an amount of Ten Thousand One Dollars  
18 (\$10,001.00) or more .....\$163.00
- 19 11. Garnishment.....\$23.00
- 20 12. Continuing wage garnishment.....\$63.00
- 21 13. Any other proceeding after judgment.....\$33.00
- 22 14. All others, including but not limited to actions for  
23 forcible entry and detainer, judgments from all other courts,  
24 including the Workers' Compensation Court.....\$85.00

1 15. Notice of renewal of judgment.....\$23.00

2 B. In addition to the amounts collected pursuant to paragraphs  
3 1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 of subsection A of this section, the sum of  
4 Six Dollars (\$6.00) shall be assessed and credited to the Law  
5 Library Fund.

6 C. In addition to the amounts collected pursuant to subsections  
7 A and B of this section, the sum of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00)  
8 shall be assessed and credited to the Oklahoma Court Information  
9 System Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 1315 of Title 20  
10 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

11 D. In addition to the amounts collected pursuant to subsection  
12 A of this section, the sum of Five Dollars (\$5.00) shall be assessed  
13 and credited to the Oklahoma court-appointed special advocates  
14 (OCASA).

15 E. In addition to the amounts collected pursuant to subsection  
16 A of this section, the sum of Two Dollars (\$2.00) shall be assessed  
17 and credited as follows:

18 1. One Dollar and fifty-five cents (\$1.55) of such amount shall  
19 be credited to the Council on Judicial Complaints Revolving Fund;  
20 and

21 2. Forty-five cents (\$0.45) of such amount shall be credited to  
22 the ~~State Judicial~~ Supreme Court Revolving Fund to be used to  
23 reimburse district courts for expenses related to services of  
24 interpreters and translators. Vouchers for such expenses shall be



1 submitted by the district court and approved by the Chief Justice of  
2 the Supreme Court or another justice designated by the Chief  
3 Justice.

4 F. In addition to the amounts collected pursuant to paragraphs  
5 1, 3, 8, 9, 10 and 14 of subsection A of this section, each county  
6 may assess, upon approval by the board of county commissioners, a  
7 sum not to exceed Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per case to be credited to  
8 the Sheriff's Service Fee Account in the county in which the action  
9 arose for the purpose of enhancing existing or providing additional  
10 courthouse security.

11 G. In any case in which a litigant claims to have a just cause  
12 of action and that, by reason of poverty, the litigant is unable to  
13 pay the fees and costs provided for in this section and is  
14 financially unable to employ counsel, upon the filing of an  
15 affidavit in forma pauperis executed before any officer authorized  
16 by law to administer oaths to that effect and upon satisfactory  
17 showing to the court that the litigant has no means and is,  
18 therefore, unable to pay the applicable fees and costs and to employ  
19 counsel, no fees or costs shall be required. The opposing party or  
20 parties may file with the court clerk of the court having  
21 jurisdiction of the cause an affidavit similarly executed  
22 contradicting the allegation of poverty. In all such cases, the  
23 court shall promptly set for hearing the determination of  
24 eligibility to litigate without payment of fees or costs. Until a

1 final order is entered determining that the affiant is ineligible,  
2 the clerk shall permit the affiant to litigate without payment of  
3 fees or costs. Any litigant executing a false affidavit or counter  
4 affidavit pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be guilty  
5 of perjury.

6 H. Payments to the court clerk for fees and costs assessed  
7 pursuant to this section may be made by a nationally recognized  
8 credit or debit card or other electronic payment method as provided  
9 in paragraph 1 of subsection B of Section 151 of this title.

10 SECTION 8. This act shall become effective July 1, 2019.

11 SECTION 9. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
12 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
13 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
14 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated  
17 04/01/2019 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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