
DIGEST

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HB 216 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Jones

Abstract: Authorizes, in lieu of requiring, 30% of the funds collected by the city courts of Morgan City, New Iberia, Jeanerette, and Breaux Bridge to be deposited into a special indigent defender fund for indigent defense services in each city court.

Present law (R.S. 15:168) requires the collection of court costs in courts of original criminal jurisdiction in the amount of \$45 until Aug. 1, 2016, and \$35 thereafter. Provides that such funds shall be used and administered by the district public defender.

Present law (R.S. 13:2005.1) provides that all fines, forfeitures, and penalties imposed by the city court of New Iberia shall be paid into the city treasury. Present law further requires 30% of those funds collected by the city court of New Iberia, to be deposited into the New Iberia Public Defender Fund.

Present law (R.S. 13: 2013) requires 30% of the funds collected by the Jeanerette City Court pursuant to (R.S. 15:168(B)) be deposited into the Jeanerette Public Defender Fund.

Present law (R.S. 13:2488.77) provides that all fines, forfeitures, penalties, and costs designated by the city judge shall be paid into the Breaux Bridge town treasury when the prosecution is on behalf of the town and into the parish treasury of the St. Martin Parish police jury general fund when the prosecution is on behalf of the state or parish. Present law further requires 30% of those funds collected by the city court of Breaux Bridge to be deposited into the Breaux Bridge Public Defender Fund.

Proposed law retains present law but changes present law to authorize instead of require that 30% of those funds collected by the city courts of Morgan City, New Iberia, Jeanerette, and Breaux Bridge be deposited in each city's Public Defender Fund.

(Amends R.S. 13:2005(D), 2005.1(B), 2013(A), and 2488.77(B))