

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 816

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUNTER

INDIGENT DEFENSE: Increases special cost assessed to fund indigent defender services

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:168(B)(1), relative to the judicial district indigent defender  
3 fund; to increase the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each judicial district  
4 court for the district indigent defender fund; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 15:168(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §168. Judicial district indigent defender fund

8 \* \* \*

9 B.(1) Every court of original criminal jurisdiction, except in the town of  
10 Jonesville, in the city of Plaquemine, and in mayors' courts in municipalities having  
11 a population of less than five thousand, shall remit the following special costs to the  
12 district indigent defender fund for the following violations, under state statute as well  
13 as under parish or municipal ordinance, except a parking violation. The sum of  
14 ~~thirty-five~~ one hundred dollars shall be assessed in cases in which a defendant is  
15 convicted after a trial, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or after forfeiting bond and  
16 shall be in addition to all other fines, costs, or forfeitures imposed.

17 \* \* \*

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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)]

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Hunter

HB No. 816

**Abstract:** Increases the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each district court for the district indigent defender fund.

Present law provides for the assessment of a \$35 special cost in each district court in all criminal cases where the defendant has been convicted, has plead guilty or nolo contendere, or has forfeited bond. Provides for the use and administration of such funds by the district public defender.

Proposed law increases the special cost to \$100.

(Amends R.S. 15:168(B)(1))