

SENATE BILL 198

D2

2lr1501
CF HB 161

By: **Chair, Anne Arundel County Senators**
Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2012
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 20, 2012

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts and Judicial Proceedings – Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County –**
3 **Fees for Appearance of Counsel**

4 FOR the purpose of altering certain appearance of counsel fees collected or charged by
5 the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County; authorizing the Clerk
6 of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County to collect a certain appearance of
7 counsel fee; and generally relating to certain appearance of counsel fees.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
10 Section 7–204(a)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

16 7–204.

17 (a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in
18 paragraph (2) of this subsection for Baltimore County, in paragraph (3) of this
19 subsection for St. Mary’s County, in paragraph (4) of this subsection for Baltimore
20 City, **[and]** in paragraph (5) of this subsection for Harford County, **AND IN**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **PARAGRAPH (6) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**, the clerk of
2 each circuit court shall:

3 (i) Collect, in advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of
4 counsel when bringing or defending a civil action in the court;

5 (ii) Charge as costs a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of
6 counsel when prosecuting or defending a criminal action in the court; and

7 (iii) Collect, in advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of
8 counsel when bringing or defending a case in the Court of Appeals.

9 (2) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County shall:

10 (i) Collect, in advance, the following fee for docketing the
11 appearance of counsel when bringing or defending a civil action:

12 1. A \$20 fee for an action, including the collection of
13 money due on mortgage, in a court of equity; and

14 2. A \$10 fee for an action at law in a court of original
15 jurisdiction;

16 (ii) Charge as costs the following fee for docketing the
17 appearance of counsel when bringing or defending a criminal action:

18 1. If the punishment for the offense charged is death or
19 confinement in the State penitentiary, a \$20 fee; and

20 2. For any other criminal action, a \$10 fee; and

21 (iii) Collect, in advance, a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
22 counsel when bringing or defending a case in the Court of Appeals.

23 (3) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County shall collect,
24 in advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of counsel when bringing or
25 defending a civil action in the court.

26 (4) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City shall:

27 (i) Collect, in advance, a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
28 counsel when bringing or defending a civil action in the court;

29 (ii) Charge as costs the following fee for docketing the
30 appearance of counsel when bringing or defending a criminal action:

1 1. If the punishment for the offense charged is death or
2 confinement in the State penitentiary, a \$20 fee; and

3 2. For any other criminal action, a \$10 fee; and

4 (iii) Collect, in advance, a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
5 counsel when bringing or defending a case in the Court of Appeals.

6 (5) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Harford County shall:

7 (i) Collect, in advance, a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
8 counsel when bringing or defending a civil action in the court;

9 (ii) Charge as costs a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
10 counsel when prosecuting or defending a criminal action in the court; and

11 (iii) Collect, in advance, a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
12 counsel when bringing or defending a case in the Court of Appeals.

13 **(6) THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL**
14 **COUNTY SHALL:**

15 **(I) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE**
16 **APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CIVIL ACTION IN**
17 **THE COURT;**

18 **(II) CHARGE AS COSTS A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE**
19 **APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN PROSECUTING OR DEFENDING A CRIMINAL**
20 **ACTION IN THE COURT; AND**

21 **(III) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE**
22 **APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CASE IN THE**
23 **COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS OR COURT OF APPEALS.**

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2012.