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SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1111

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By House Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Kilduff, Stokesbary, Walkinshaw, Goodman, Gregerson, Jinkins, Muri, Rodne, and Moeller; by request of Board For Judicial Administration)

READ FIRST TIME 01/18/16.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to court transcripts; amending RCW 2.32.240,
- 2 2.32.250, and 3.02.040; and reenacting and amending RCW 36.18.016.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.32.240 and 2011 c 336 s 54 are each amended to 5 read as follows:
 - When a record has been taken in any cause as provided in RCW 2.32.180 through 2.32.310, if the court, or either party to the suit or action, or his or her attorney, request a transcript, the official reporter ((and clerk of the court)) employed by the court or other certified court reporter, or an authorized transcriptionist, shall make, or cause to be made, with reasonable diligence, accurate transcript of the testimony and other proceedings, which shall, when certified to as hereinafter provided, be filed with the clerk of the court where such trial is had for the use of the court or parties to the action, except for transcripts requested for an appellate case. The fees of the official reporter ((and clerk of the)) employed by the court or other certified court reporter, or authorized transcriptionist, as defined by supreme court rule, for making such transcript shall be fixed in accordance with costs as allowed in cost bills in civil cases by the supreme court of the state of Washington, and when such transcript is ordered by any party

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to any suit or action, said fee shall be paid forthwith by the party ordering the same, and in all cases where a transcript is made as provided for under the provisions of RCW 2.32.180 through 2.32.310 the cost thereof shall be taxable as costs in the case, and shall be so taxed as other costs in the case are taxed: PROVIDED, That when((τ) from and after December 20, 1973,)) a party has been judicially determined to have a constitutional right to a transcript and to be unable by reason of poverty to pay for such transcript, the court may order said transcript to be made by the official reporter employed by the court or other certified court reporter, or an authorized transcriptionist, which transcript fee therefor shall be paid by the state upon submission of appropriate vouchers to the clerk of the supreme court.

Sec. 2. RCW 2.32.250 and 1913 c 126 s 6 are each amended to read 15 as follows:

The report of the official reporter employed by the court or other certified court reporter, or authorized transcriptionist, when transcribed and certified as being a correct transcript of the stenographic notes ((of the)) or electronically recorded testimony, or other oral proceedings had in the matter, shall be prima facie a correct statement of such testimony or other oral proceedings had, and the same may thereafter, in any civil cause, be read in evidence as competent testimony, when satisfactory proof is offered to the judge presiding that the witness originally giving such testimony is then dead or without the jurisdiction of the court, subject, however, to all objections the same as though such witness were present and giving such testimony in person.

- **Sec. 3.** RCW 3.02.040 and 1980 c 162 s 4 are each amended to read 29 as follows:
- The administrator for the courts ((shall supervise)) may be consulted for advice on the selection, installation, and operation of any electronic recording equipment in courts of limited jurisdiction.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 36.18.016 and 2015 c 275 s 11 and 2015 c 265 s 27 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- 35 (1) Revenue collected under this section is not subject to division under RCW 36.18.025 or 27.24.070.

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(2)(a) For the filing of a petition for modification of a decree of dissolution or paternity, within the same case as the original action, and any party filing a counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim in any such action, a fee of thirty-six dollars must be paid.

- (b) The party filing the first or initial petition for dissolution, legal separation, or declaration concerning the validity of marriage shall pay, at the time and in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 36.18.020, a fee of fifty-four dollars. The clerk of the superior court shall transmit monthly forty-eight dollars of the fifty-four dollar fee collected under this subsection to the state treasury for deposit in the domestic violence prevention account. The remaining six dollars shall be retained by the county for the purpose of supporting community-based domestic violence services within the county, except for five percent of the six dollars, which may be retained by the court for administrative purposes. On or before December 15th of each year, the county shall report to the department of social and health services revenues associated with this section and community-based domestic violence services expenditures. The department of social and health services shall develop a reporting form to be utilized by counties for uniform reporting purposes.
 - (3)(a) The party making a demand for a jury of six in a civil action shall pay, at the time, a fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars; if the demand is for a jury of twelve, a fee of two hundred fifty dollars. If, after the party demands a jury of six and pays the required fee, any other party to the action requests a jury of twelve, an additional one hundred twenty-five dollar fee will be required of the party demanding the increased number of jurors.
 - (b) Upon conviction in criminal cases a jury demand charge of one hundred twenty-five dollars for a jury of six, or two hundred fifty dollars for a jury of twelve may be imposed as costs under RCW 10.46.190.
 - (4) For preparing a certified copy of an instrument on file or of record in the clerk's office, for the first page or portion of the first page, a fee of five dollars, and for each additional page or portion of a page, a fee of one dollar must be charged. For authenticating or exemplifying an instrument, a fee of two dollars for each additional seal affixed must be charged. For preparing a copy of an instrument on file or of record in the clerk's office

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- without a seal, a fee of fifty cents per page must be charged. When copying a document without a seal or file that is in an electronic format, a fee of twenty-five cents per page must be charged. For
- 4 copies made on a compact disc, an additional fee of twenty dollars
- 5 for each compact disc must be charged.
- 6 (5) For executing a certificate, with or without a seal, a fee of two dollars must be charged.
- 8 (6) For a garnishee defendant named in an affidavit for 9 garnishment and for a writ of attachment, a fee of twenty dollars 10 must be charged.
- 11 (7) For filing a supplemental proceeding, a fee of twenty dollars 12 must be charged.
- 13 (8) For approving a bond, including justification on the bond, in 14 other than civil actions and probate proceedings, a fee of two 15 dollars must be charged.
- 16 (9) For the issuance of a certificate of qualification and a 17 certified copy of letters of administration, letters testamentary, or 18 letters of guardianship, there must be a fee of five dollars.
- 19 (10) For the preparation of a passport application, the clerk may 20 collect an execution fee as authorized by the federal government.
- 21 (11) For clerk's services such as performing historical searches, 22 compiling statistical reports, and conducting exceptional record 23 searches, the clerk may collect a fee not to exceed thirty dollars 24 per hour.
- 25 (12) For processing ex parte orders, the clerk may collect a fee 26 of thirty dollars.
- 27 (13) For duplicated recordings of court's proceedings there must 28 be a fee of ten dollars for each audiotape and twenty-five dollars 29 for each ((videotape)) video or other electronic storage medium.
- 30 (14) For registration of land titles, Torrens Act, under RCW 31 65.12.780, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged.
- 32 (15) For the issuance of extension of judgment under RCW 6.17.020 33 and chapter 9.94A RCW, a fee of two hundred dollars must be charged. 34 When the extension of judgment is at the request of the clerk, the 35 two hundred dollar charge may be imposed as court costs under RCW
- 36 10.46.190.
- 37 (16) A facilitator surcharge of up to twenty dollars must be 38 charged as authorized under RCW 26.12.240.
- 39 (17) For filing an adjudication claim under RCW 90.03.180, a fee 40 of twenty-five dollars must be charged.

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1 (18) For filing a claim of frivolous lien under RCW 60.04.081, a 2 fee of thirty-five dollars must be charged.

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- (19) For preparation of a change of venue, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged by the originating court in addition to the per page charges in subsection (4) of this section.
- 6 (20) A service fee of five dollars for the first page and one 7 dollar for each additional page must be charged for receiving faxed 8 documents, pursuant to Washington state rules of court, general rule 9 17.
- 10 (21) For preparation of clerk's papers under RAP 9.7, a fee of 11 fifty cents per page must be charged.
- 12 (22) For copies and reports produced at the local level as 13 permitted by RCW 2.68.020 and supreme court policy, a variable fee 14 must be charged.
- 15 (23) Investment service charge and earnings under RCW 36.48.090 16 must be charged.
- 17 (24) Costs for nonstatutory services rendered by clerk by 18 authority of local ordinance or policy must be charged.
 - (25) For filing a request for mandatory arbitration, a filing fee may be assessed against the party filing a statement of arbitrability not to exceed two hundred twenty dollars as established by authority of local ordinance. This charge shall be used solely to offset the cost of the mandatory arbitration program.
- (26) For filing a request for trial de novo of an arbitration award, a fee not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars as established by authority of local ordinance must be charged.
 - (27) A public agency may not charge a fee to a law enforcement agency, for preparation, copying, or mailing of certified copies of the judgment and sentence, information, affidavit of probable cause, and/or the notice of requirement to register, of a sex offender convicted in a Washington court, when such records are necessary for risk assessment, preparation of a case for failure to register, or maintenance of a sex offender's registration file.
 - (28) For the filing of a will or codicil under the provisions of chapter 11.12 RCW, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged.
- 36 (29) For the collection of an adult offender's unpaid legal 37 financial obligations, the clerk may impose an annual fee of up to 38 one hundred dollars, pursuant to RCW 9.94A.780.

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(30) A surcharge of up to twenty dollars may be charged in dissolution and legal separation actions as authorized by RCW 26.12.260.

The revenue to counties from the fees established in this section shall be deemed to be complete reimbursement from the state for the state's share of benefits paid to the superior court judges of the state prior to July 24, 2005, and no claim shall lie against the state for such benefits.

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