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**SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1207**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Thai and Ryu; by request of Secretary of State)

READ FIRST TIME 04/08/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to superior court clerk fees; and amending RCW  
2 36.18.020.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.18.020 and 2022 c 260 s 17 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Revenue collected under this section is subject to division  
7 with the state under RCW 36.18.025 and with the county or regional  
8 law library fund under RCW 27.24.070, except as provided in  
9 subsection (5) of this section.

10 (2) Clerks of superior courts shall collect the following fees  
11 for their official services:

12 (a) In addition to any other fee required by law, the party  
13 filing the first or initial document in any civil action, including,  
14 but not limited to an action for restitution, adoption, or change of  
15 name, and any party filing a counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-  
16 party claim in any such civil action, shall pay, at the time the  
17 document is filed, a fee of \$200 except, in an unlawful detainer  
18 action under chapter 59.18 or 59.20 RCW for which the plaintiff shall  
19 pay a case initiating filing fee of \$45, or in proceedings filed  
20 under RCW 28A.225.030 alleging a violation of the compulsory  
21 attendance laws where the petitioner shall not pay a filing fee. The

1 \$45 filing fee under this subsection for an unlawful detainer action  
2 shall not include an order to show cause or any other order or  
3 judgment except a default order or default judgment in an unlawful  
4 detainer action.

5 (b) Any party, except a defendant in a criminal case, filing the  
6 first or initial document on an appeal from a court of limited  
7 jurisdiction or any party on any civil appeal, shall pay, when the  
8 document is filed, a fee of \$200.

9 (c) For filing of a petition for judicial review as required  
10 under RCW 34.05.514 a filing fee of \$200.

11 (d) For filing of a petition for an antiharassment protection  
12 order under RCW 7.105.100 a filing fee of \$53.

13 (e) For filing the notice of debt due for the compensation of a  
14 crime victim under RCW 7.68.120(2) (a) a fee of \$200.

15 (f) In probate proceedings, the party instituting such  
16 proceedings, shall pay at the time of filing the first document  
17 therein, a fee of \$200.

18 (g) For filing any petition to contest a will admitted to probate  
19 or a petition to admit a will which has been rejected, or a petition  
20 objecting to a written agreement or memorandum as provided in RCW  
21 11.96A.220, there shall be paid a fee of \$200.

22 (h) Upon conviction or plea of guilty, upon failure to prosecute  
23 an appeal from a court of limited jurisdiction as provided by law, or  
24 upon affirmance of a conviction by a court of limited jurisdiction,  
25 an adult defendant in a criminal case shall be liable for a fee of  
26 two hundred dollars, except this fee shall not be imposed on a  
27 defendant who is indigent as defined in RCW 10.01.160(3). Upon motion  
28 by the defendant, the court may waive or reduce any fee previously  
29 imposed under this subsection if the court finds that the defendant  
30 is indigent as defined in RCW 10.01.160(3).

31 (i) ~~((With the exception of demands for jury hereafter made and  
32 garnishments hereafter issued, civil actions and probate proceedings  
33 filed prior to midnight, July 1, 1972, shall be completed and  
34 governed by the fee schedule in effect as of January 1, 1972.  
35 However, no))~~ No fee shall be assessed if an order of dismissal on  
36 the clerk's record be filed as provided by rule of the supreme court.

37 (3) No fee shall be collected when a petition for relinquishment  
38 of parental rights is filed pursuant to RCW 26.33.080 or for forms  
39 and instructional brochures provided under RCW 7.105.115.

1 (4) No fee shall be collected when an abstract of judgment is  
2 filed by the county clerk of another county for the purposes of  
3 collection of legal financial obligations.

4 (5)(a) In addition to the fees required to be collected under  
5 this section, clerks of the superior courts must collect surcharges  
6 as provided in this subsection (5) of which 75 percent must be  
7 remitted to the state treasurer for deposit in the judicial  
8 stabilization trust account and 25 percent must be retained by the  
9 county.

10 (b) On filing fees required to be collected under subsection  
11 (2)(b) of this section, a surcharge of \$30 must be collected.

12 (c) On all filing fees required to be collected under this  
13 section, except for fees required under subsection (2)(b), (d), and  
14 (h) of this section, a surcharge of \$40 must be collected.

15 (6) On filing fees required to be collected under subsection  
16 (2)(a), (b), (c), (e), (f), and (g) of this section, a surcharge of  
17 \$50 must be collected and transmitted by the county treasurer to the  
18 state treasurer to be deposited in the following manner: \$20 in the  
19 Washington state legacy project, state library, and archives account  
20 and \$30 in the judicial stabilization trust account.

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