



## **H.B. 269**

123rd General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Coughlin, Evans, Hollister, Patton**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Requires the salary of the clerk of a county court and of certain municipal courts to be fixed by the presiding judge, rather than by the board of county commissioners or municipal legislative authority.
- Changes the deadlines for paying certain state-imposed court costs and filing fees to the Treasurer of State.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Fixing the clerk of court's salary**

##### **County courts**

(sec. 1907.20(A))

Currently, in county courts, the board of county commissioners appoints the clerk of court and fixes the clerk's salary. If the board obtains the concurrence of the county court judges, the board may appoint a county clerk for each county judge, and fix the salaries of those various clerks.

The bill requires the presiding county court judge to fix the salary of the clerk (or clerks) of the county court.

##### **Certain municipal courts**

(sec. 1901.31(A)(1)(f) and (C))

Currently, in the Medina Municipal Court and in municipal courts serving a territory having a population under 100,000 (excluding the Auglaize County Municipal Court), the municipal legislative authority fixes the salary of the clerk of court.

Under the bill, the presiding judge of the court would fix the clerk's salary.

**Deadline for paying court fees to Treasurer of State**

(secs. 1901.26(C), 1907.24(C), 2303.201(C), 2743.70(A)(1), and 2949.091(A)(1))

State court costs are imposed on persons convicted of or pleading guilty to offenses (other than traffic offenses that are not moving violations) in county and municipal courts and courts of common pleas. The amounts of the costs imposed are \$30 in the case of felonies, \$9 in the case of misdemeanors, and an additional \$11 in the case of any offense. The \$30 and \$9 costs are credited to the state's Reparations Fund; the \$11 cost is credited to the General Revenue Fund. These costs must be paid to the Treasurer of State on the first business day of the month (for adult offenses) or on the 20th day of the month (for juvenile offenses).

Also, county courts, municipal courts, and courts of common pleas must impose a filing fee of \$15 for each new civil action (\$7 in the case of small claims court actions) to provide support for legal aid societies. (These fees decrease to \$4 in 2003.) These fees must be paid on the 20th day of each month.

Under the bill, these costs and fees all would be payable to the Treasurer of State on the 15th day of each month.

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**HISTORY**

| ACTION     | DATE     | JOURNAL ENTRY |
|------------|----------|---------------|
| Introduced | 03-23-99 | p. 347        |

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