

SENATE BILL 1090

D3

4lr3299

By: **Prince George's County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 28, 2014

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Circuit Court – Attorney Appearance Fee**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain attorney appearance fee payable to the Clerk of
4 the Circuit Court for Prince George's County; altering the purposes for which
5 certain appearance fees collected may be used to include the general purposes of
6 the jury office; and generally relating to attorney appearance fees in the Circuit
7 Court for Prince George's County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
10 Section 7–204(a)(1) and (q)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
15 Section 7–204(a)(6)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

21 7–204.

22 (a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in
23 paragraph (2) of this subsection for Baltimore County, in paragraph (3) of this
24 subsection for St. Mary's County, in paragraph (4) of this subsection for Baltimore

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 City, [and] in paragraph (5) of this subsection for Harford County, AND IN
2 PARAGRAPH (6) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, the clerk
3 of each circuit court shall:

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

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

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

10 (6) THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S
11 COUNTY SHALL:

12 (I) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$30 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE
13 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CIVIL ACTION IN
14 THE COURT;

15 (II) CHARGE AS COSTS A \$25 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE
16 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN PROSECUTING OR DEFENDING A CRIMINAL
17 ACTION IN THE COURT; AND

18 (III) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE
19 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN:

20 1. BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CASE ON A FAMILY
21 COURT DOCKET OR JUVENILE COURT DOCKET; OR

22 2. FILING AN APPEARANCE REGARDING JUVENILE
23 ADOPTION.

24 (q) (1) (I) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County
25 shall transmit to the county all appearance fees collected by the Clerk under this
26 section to be used for the general purposes of the court library [and], assignment
27 office, AND JURY OFFICE, and for the maintenance and improvement of the court's
28 facilities, equipment, and programs.

29 (II) These purposes include, but are not limited to, the necessary
30 expenses for books, legal publications, library equipment, and the services of the
31 library and other personnel.

32 (2) Expenditures for the library are not limited to this fund if the same
33 should be deemed insufficient by the County Administrative Judge.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2014.