

# HOUSE BILL 542

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5lr2733  
CF SB 264

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By: **Delegates O'Donnell and Jackson**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2015

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Circuit Court for Calvert County – Fees for Appearance of Counsel**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain appearance of counsel fees collected or charged by the  
4 Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert County; altering the purposes for which certain  
5 appearance fees deposited into the Calvert County Law Library Fund may be used;  
6 and generally relating to certain appearance of counsel fees.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9 Section 7–204(a)(1) and (f)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

14 Section 7–204(a)(7)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

20 7–204.

21 (a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in paragraph (2)  
22 of this subsection for Baltimore County, in paragraph (3) of this subsection for St. Mary's  
23 County, in paragraph (4) of this subsection for Baltimore City, in paragraph (5) of this  
24 subsection for Harford County, [and] in paragraph (6) of this subsection for Carroll County,

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 AND IN PARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR CALVERT 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 counsel  
6 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 (7) THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CALVERT COUNTY  
10 SHALL:

11 (I) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE  
12 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CIVIL ACTION IN THE  
13 COURT;

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

17 (III) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE  
18 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CASE IN THE COURT  
19 OF APPEALS.

20 (f) (1) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert County shall deposit monthly  
21 all appearance fees collected by the Clerk under this section into a special account to be  
22 known as the Calvert County Law Library Fund.

23 (2) The Fund shall be used [only] for THE GENERAL PURPOSES OF THE  
24 COURT LIBRARY AND ASSIGNMENT OFFICE AND FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND  
25 IMPROVEMENT OF THE COURT'S FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND PROGRAMS.

26 (3) THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS  
27 SUBSECTION INCLUDE the acquisition of books [and], other publications, AND library  
28 equipment, PAYMENT FOR SERVICES OF LIBRARY AND OTHER PERSONNEL, and other  
29 necessary expenses, as determined by the County Administrative Judge.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
31 October 1, 2015.