
By: Delegate Montague

Requested: June 21, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City - Circuit Court - Appearance Fees**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the amount of the appearance fee to be collected when filing
4 certain actions in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City under certain circumstances;
5 and generally relating to appearance fees for law actions filed in Baltimore City.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
8 Section 7-204(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

14 7-204.

15 (a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in paragraph (2)
16 of this subsection for BALTIMORE CITY AND Baltimore County and in paragraph (3) of
17 this subsection for St. Mary's County, the clerk of each circuit court shall:

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

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

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

24 (2) The CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY AND THE
25 Clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County shall:

26 (i) Collect, in advance, the following fee for docketing the appearance
27 of counsel when bringing or defending a civil action:

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1 1. A \$20 fee for an action, including the collection of money
2 due on mortgage, in a court of equity; and

3 2. A. A \$10 fee for an action at law in a court of original
4 jurisdiction IN BALTIMORE COUNTY; AND

5 B. A FEE OF \$20 FOR AN ACTION AT LAW IN A COURT OF
6 ORIGINAL JURISDICTION IN BALTIMORE CITY;

7 (ii) Charge as costs the following fee for docketing the appearance of
8 counsel when bringing or defending a criminal action:

9 1. If the punishment for the offense charged is death or
10 confinement in the State penitentiary, a \$20 fee; and

11 2. For any other criminal action, a \$10 fee; and

12 (iii) Collect, in advance, a \$20 fee for docketing the appearance of
13 counsel when bringing or defending a case in the Court of Appeals.

14 (3) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County shall collect, in
15 advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of counsel when bringing or defending a
16 civil action in the court.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 July 1, 1996.