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(PRE-FILED)

HB 520/95 - JUD

By: Delegate Montague

Requested: June 21, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 6, 1996

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 [TAG ftpo]FOR the purpose of altering the amount of the appearance fee ~~to be collected when filing~~

4 for certain actions in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City under certain

5 circumstances; and generally relating to appearance fees for ~~law actions filed~~

6 certain actions in Baltimore City.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9 Section 7-204(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

15 7-204.

16 (a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in paragraph (2)

17 of this subsection for ~~BALTIMORE CITY AND~~ Baltimore County ~~and~~, in paragraph (3) of

18 this subsection for St. Mary's County, AND IN PARAGRAPH (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION

19 FOR BALTIMORE CITY, the clerk of each circuit court shall:

20 (i) Collect, in advance, a \$10 fee for docketing the appearance of

21 counsel when bringing or defending a civil action in the court;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 1. If the punishment for the offense charged is deathor
18 confinement in the State penitentiary, a \$20 fee; and

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

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

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

25 (4) THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY SHALL:

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

29 (II) CHARGE AS COSTS THE FOLLOWING FEE FOR DOCKETING THE
30 APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CRIMINAL ACTION:

31 1. IF THE PUNISHMENT FOR THE OFFENSE CHARGED IS
32 DEATH OR CONFINEMENT IN THE STATE PENITENTIARY, A \$20 FEE; AND

33 2. FOR ANY OTHER CRIMINAL ACTION, A \$10 FEE; AND

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

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