
By: Senator Pica

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 1996
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 7, 1996

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City - Courts - 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)(1) ~~and (2)~~

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;

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

2

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

3 (2) The Clerk of the Circuit Court for ~~BALTIMORE CITY AND FOR~~
4 Baltimore County shall:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

