

HOUSE BILL 542

D2

5lr2733
CF SB 264

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

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2015

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2015

CHAPTER _____

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.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (a) (1) Except in Montgomery County and except as provided in paragraph (2)
2 of this subsection for Baltimore County, in paragraph (3) of this subsection for St. Mary's
3 County, in paragraph (4) of this subsection for Baltimore City, in paragraph (5) of this
4 subsection for Harford County, [and] in paragraph (6) of this subsection for Carroll County,
5 **AND IN PARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR CALVERT COUNTY**, the clerk of
6 each circuit court shall:

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

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

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

13 **(7) THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CALVERT COUNTY**
14 **SHALL:**

15 **(I) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE**
16 **APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CIVIL ACTION IN THE**
17 **COURT;**

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

21 **(III) COLLECT, IN ADVANCE, A \$20 FEE FOR DOCKETING THE**
22 **APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL WHEN BRINGING OR DEFENDING A CASE IN THE COURT**
23 **OF APPEALS.**

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

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

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

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.