

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Hon. Matthew J. Fader
Chief Justice

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Judiciary Committee
FROM: Legislative Committee
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.
410-260-1523
RE: House Bill 591
Criminal Procedure – Restitution Orders – Recording Fees
DATE: February 21, 2023
(2/15)
POSITION: Support

The Maryland Judiciary supports House Bill 591. This bill provides that a court may not assess costs on a person or governmental unit who is ordered to receive restitution when recording and indexing a money judgement in any court in the state.

Currently if a victim of a crime is awarded a judgment, it is entered in the judgment index in the county that issued the judgment for free. However, if a clerk were presented that same judgment in another county in Maryland to record, they would have to charge a fee of \$15 before it could be recorded under the current statute. This bill would resolve that inequity.

cc. Hon. Jason Buckel
Judicial Council
Legislative Committee
Kelley O'Connor