

By Representative Henriquez

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to court costs in domestic
3 violence cases; creating s. 938.14, F.S.;
4 providing for imposition of an additional
5 mandatory court cost upon a person found to
6 have committed an act of domestic violence;
7 providing for waiver of the court cost;
8 providing for collection by the clerk of the
9 court; providing for deposit of such court
10 costs in the Domestic Violence Trust Fund;
11 providing for certain disbursements in
12 accordance with specified provisions relating
13 to funding of domestic violence centers;
14 providing an effective date.

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16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18 Section 1. Section 938.14, Florida Statutes, is
19 created to read:

20 938.14 Additional court costs in domestic violence
21 cases.--

22 (1) When a person pleads guilty or nolo contendere to,
23 or is found guilty or convicted of, regardless of
24 adjudication, an act of domestic violence as defined in s.
25 741.28, there shall be imposed on the person as a cost in the
26 case, in addition to any other cost or penalty required to be
27 imposed by law, a court cost in the sum of \$36. This
28 additional court cost shall be assessed against the person
29 unless specifically waived by the court on the record.

30 (2) The clerk of the court shall collect the
31 respective \$36 assessments for court costs provided for in

1 this section and, on a monthly basis, transfer the moneys
2 collected to the State Treasury for deposit in the designated
3 account of the Domestic Violence Trust Fund for disbursement
4 in accordance with s. 741.01(2).

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

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8 HOUSE SUMMARY

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10 Provides for imposition of an additional mandatory court
11 cost upon a person found to have committed an act of
12 domestic violence. Provides for specific waiver of the
13 cost on the record. Provides for collection by the clerk
14 of the court. Provides for deposit of such court costs
15 in the Domestic Violence Trust Fund, and authorizes
16 certain disbursements from the fund under specified
17 provisions relating to funding of domestic violence
18 centers.
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