

By Representatives Henriquez, Heyman and Greenstein

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, 2001.

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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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