A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to continuing implementation of 3 Constitutional Revision 7 to Article V; amending s. 27.52, F.S.; providing for liability for fees, costs, and charges 4 of representation in delinquency proceedings; expanding a 5 provision imposing a lien; amending s. 27.561, F.S.; 6 7 deleting authorization for a court to reduce or revoke 8 attorney's fees or costs under certain circumstances; 9 requiring defendant-recipients or parents defaulting on payment of attorney's fees or costs to enroll in a payment 10 plan under certain circumstances; amending s. 28.24, F.S.; 11 decreasing a portion of a fee distributed to the Florida 12 Association of Court Clerks and Comptroller, Inc., used to 13 fund court-related technology needs; increasing a portion 14 of a fee used to fund court-related technology needs and 15 16 court technology needs and redirecting its distribution from the boards of county commissioners to the Court 17 Technology Trust Fund; specifying additional uses of the 18 19 fee; providing criteria and requirements for use and distribution of funds in the trust fund; amending s. 20 28.35, F.S.; providing additional duties of the Florida 21 Clerks of Court Operations Corporation; providing 22 requirements for the corporation relating to certain 23 24 budget amendments; prohibiting a clerk from making certain noncomplying expenditures; amending s. 28.36, F.S.; 25 26 correcting cross-references; providing expenditure requirements for certain budgets; providing expenditure 27 recording and reporting requirements for clerks; amending 28

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s. 29.008, F.S.; specifying methodology, criteria, and procedures for determining noncompliance of counties in funding court-related functions; providing duties of a chief judge, the board of county commissioners, the Executive Office of the Governor, and the Administration Commission; revising provisions for withholding certain revenue sharing receipts by the Department of Revenue; providing a definition; amending s. 29.0086, F.S.; providing an additional reporting requirement of the Article V Technology Board; providing for future repeal of the Article V Technology Board; creating s. 29.0087, F.S.; establishing in each judicial circuit a Judicial Circuit Article V Technology Advisory Council; providing for membership; providing for terms; providing for serving without compensation; providing for per diem and travel expenses; providing for staff for the councils; providing for meetings; providing purposes and duties; amending s. 44.103, F.S.; providing additional requirements and procedures for court-ordered nonbinding arbitration proceedings; authorizing courts to assess certain costs against parties requesting de novo trials after arbitration; providing cost assessment criteria; providing a definition; amending s. 218.245, F.S.; revising apportionment criteria for revenue sharing distributions for certain local governments; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; revising reporting requirements for infraction or violation surcharge funds used to finance court facilities; amending s. 903.286, F.S.; revising authority

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of the clerk of court to withhold funds from return of certain cash bonds for unpaid court fees, court costs, and criminal penalties; providing notice requirements of such withheld funds; amending s. 938.27, F.S.; requiring convicted persons or parents of adjudicated juveniles to enroll in certain prosecution cost-payment plans; deleting certain cost-payment criteria; deleting a requirement for deposit and use of costs collected by the state attorney; amending s. 938.29, F.S.; revising certain provisions for liability for payment of attorney's fees and costs; amending s. 948.15, F.S.; requiring misdemeanor probation service providers to establish a process for collecting certain payments; providing for allocating certain payments among outstanding obligations; renumbering s. 939.185, F.S., as s. 938.195, F.S.; creating s. 938.065, F.S., by transferring and amending s. 775.083(2), F.S.; providing for financing county crime prevention programs from certain court costs; amending ss. 938.17, 938.19, 948.08, 948.16, and 985.306, F.S.; correcting crossreferences; providing an effective date.

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

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- Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 27.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 27.52 Determination of indigent status.--
- (6) DUTIES OF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.--A nonindigent parent or legal guardian of an applicant who is a minor or an

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adult tax-dependent person shall furnish the minor or adult taxdependent person with the necessary legal services and costs incident to a delinquency proceeding or, upon transfer of such person for criminal prosecution as an adult pursuant to chapter 985, a criminal prosecution in which the person has a right to legal counsel under the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the State of Florida. The failure of a parent or legal guardian to furnish legal services and costs under this section does not bar the appointment of legal counsel pursuant to this section, s. 27.40, or s. 27.5303. When the public defender, a private court-appointed conflict counsel, or a private attorney is appointed to represent a minor or an adult tax-dependent person in any proceeding in circuit court or in a criminal or delinquency proceeding in any other court, the parents or the legal guardian shall be liable for payment of the fees, charges, and costs of the representation even if the person is a minor being tried as an adult. Liability for the fees, charges, and costs of the representation shall be imposed in the form of a lien against the property of the nonindigent parents or legal quardian of the minor or adult tax-dependent person. The lien is enforceable as provided in s. 27.561 or s. 938.29.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 27.561, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.561 Effect of nonpayment. --

(3) If it appears to the satisfaction of the court that the default in the payment of the attorney's fees or costs is not contempt, the court may enter an order allowing the

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defendant-recipient or parent additional time for, or reducing the amount of, payment or revoking the assessed attorney's fees or costs, or the unpaid portion thereof, in whole or in part. If the court allows additional time for payment, the defendant-recipient or parent shall be enrolled in a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246(4).

Section 3. Paragraph (e) of subsection (12) of section 28.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

28.24 Service charges by clerk of the circuit court. -- The clerk of the circuit court shall charge for services rendered by the clerk's office in recording documents and instruments and in performing the duties enumerated in amounts not to exceed those specified in this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the clerk of the circuit court shall provide without charge to the state attorney, public defender, guardian ad litem, public quardian, attorney ad litem, and courtappointed counsel paid by the state, and to the authorized staff acting on behalf of each, access to and a copy of any public record, if the requesting party is entitled by law to view the exempt or confidential record, as maintained by and in the custody of the clerk of the circuit court as provided in general law and the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration. The clerk of the circuit court may provide the requested public record in an electronic format in lieu of a paper format when capable of being accessed by the requesting entity.

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(12) For recording, indexing, and filing any instrument not more than 14 inches by 81/2 inches, including required notice to property appraiser where applicable:

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- (e) An additional service charge of \$4 per page shall be paid to the clerk of the circuit court for each instrument listed in s. 28.222, except judgments received from the courts and notices of lis pendens, recorded in the official records. From the additional \$4 service charge collected:
- If the counties maintain legal responsibility for the costs of the court-related technology needs as described defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h), $5\frac{10}{10}$ cents shall be distributed to the Florida Association of Court Clerks and Comptroller, Inc., for the cost of development, implementation, operation, and maintenance of the clerks' Comprehensive Case Information System, in which system all clerks shall participate on or before January 1, 2006; \$1.90 shall be retained by the clerk to be deposited in the Public Records Modernization Trust Fund and used exclusively for funding court-related technology needs of the clerk as described defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h); and \$2.05 \$2 shall be distributed to the Court Technology Trust Fund board of county commissioners to be used to prepare the strategic plan required by s. 29.0087 and provide oversight of court-related technology services provided by the counties and to be disbursed to counties as state financial assistance to offset the costs of providing exclusively to fund court-related technology, and court technology needs as described defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h) for the state trial courts, state attorney, and public defender in that county. Counties shall

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agree to use funds in conformance with the strategic plan required by s. 29.0087 as approved by the chief judge in order to be eligible for state financial assistance from the Court Technology Trust Fund. The amount provided to each county from the Court Technology Trust Fund shall be equal to each county's percentage of total collections of the additional recording fee required by this section applied to the total amount available to be distributed to counties. If a county is not eligible to receive funds from the Court Technology Trust Fund, the funds that would have otherwise been distributed to the county shall remain in the Court Technology Trust Fund to be used as appropriated by the Legislature. If the counties maintain legal responsibility for the costs of the court-related technology needs as described defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h), notwithstanding any other provision of law, the county is not required to provide additional funding beyond that provided herein for the court-related technology needs of the clerk as described defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h). All court records and official records are the property of the State of Florida, including any records generated as part of the Comprehensive Case Information System funded pursuant to this paragraph and the clerk of court is designated as the custodian of such records, except in a county where the duty of maintaining official records exists in a county office other than the clerk of court or comptroller, such county office is designated the custodian of all official records, and the clerk of court is designated the custodian of all court records. The clerk of court or any entity acting on behalf of the clerk of

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court, including an association, shall not charge a fee to any agency as defined in s. 119.011, the Legislature, or the State Court System for copies of records generated by the Comprehensive Case Information System or held by the clerk of court or any entity acting on behalf of the clerk of court, including an association.

- 2. If the state becomes legally responsible for the costs of court-related technology needs as <u>described</u> defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h), whether by operation of general law or by court order, \$4 shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
- Section 4. Paragraphs (h) and (i) are added to subsection (2) of section 28.35, Florida Statutes, paragraph (e) of that subsection is amended, subsections (4) through (7) of that section are renumbered as subsections (5) through (8), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:
 - 28.35 Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation .--
- (2) The duties of the corporation shall include the following:
- (e) Developing and certifying a uniform system of performance measures and applicable performance standards for the functions specified in paragraph (5) (4) (a) and clerk performance in meeting the performance standards. These measures and standards shall be designed to facilitate an objective determination of the performance of each clerk in accordance with minimum standards for fiscal management, operational efficiency, and effective collection of fines, fees, service

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charges, and court costs. When the corporation finds a clerk has not met the performance standards, the corporation shall identify the nature of each deficiency and any corrective action recommended and taken by the affected clerk of the court.

- (h) Receiving reports from each clerk of court in a format specified by the corporation that allows reconciliation of the expenses of a clerk to the clerk's certified budget.
- (i) Providing information regarding the budgets and expenditures of clerks and any other fiscal data related to the corporation and performance of court-related clerk duties upon request by a committee of the Legislature, the Governor, or the Office of the State Courts Administrator. Clerks of court shall provide any information requested by the corporation in accordance with this paragraph.
- (4) Approval of the corporation is required for a certified budget to be amended except as otherwise provided in s. 28.36(6). The corporation shall provide notice to the appropriations committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives of any requested amendment to a certified budget and the resulting action taken by the corporation to approve or disapprove such request. A clerk may not make expenditures that do not comply with the clerk's certified budget.
- Section 5. Subsections (1) through (5) of section 28.36, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:
- 28.36 Budget procedure.--There is hereby established a budget procedure for the court-related functions of the clerks of the court.

(1) Only those functions on the standard list developed pursuant to s. $28.35\underline{(5)}\underline{(4)}$ (a) may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court. No clerk may use fees, service charges, court costs, and fines in excess of the maximum budget amounts as established in subsection (5).

- (2) For the period July 1, 2004, through September 30, 2004, and for each county fiscal year ending September 30 thereafter, each clerk of the court shall prepare a budget relating solely to the performance of the standard list of court-related functions pursuant to s. 28.35(5)(4)(a).
- (3) Each proposed budget shall further conform to the following requirements:
- (a) On or before August 15 for each fiscal year thereafter, the proposed budget shall be prepared, summarized, and submitted by the clerk in each county to the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation in the manner and form prescribed by the corporation. The proposed budget must provide detailed information on the anticipated revenues available and expenditures necessary for the performance of the standard list of court-related functions of the clerk's office developed pursuant to s. 28.35(5)(4)(a) for the county fiscal year beginning the following October 1.
- (b) The proposed budget must be balanced, such that the total of the estimated revenues available equals must equal or exceeds exceed the total of the anticipated expenditures. These revenues include the following: cash balances brought forward from the prior fiscal period; revenue projected to be received

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from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines for courtrelated functions during the fiscal period covered by the
budget; and supplemental revenue that may be requested pursuant
to subsection (4). Both proposed and certified budgets shall
list expenditures by appropriations categories as defined in s.
216.011 and the number of full-time equivalent positions. A
budget shall specifically list any nonrecurring expenditures,
including, but not limited to, employee bonuses and equipment
purchases. The budget shall also specify details of any general
changes to salaries and benefits, such as cost-of-living
increases in salaries and improvements in benefits. The
anticipated expenditures must be itemized as required by the
corporation, pursuant to contract with the Chief Financial
Officer.

- (c) The proposed budget may include a contingency reserve not to exceed 10 percent of the total budget, provided that, overall, the proposed budget does not exceed the limits prescribed in subsection (5).
- (4) If a clerk of the court estimates that available funds plus projected revenues from fines, fees, service charges, and costs for court-related services are insufficient to meet the anticipated expenditures for the standard list of court-related functions in s. $28.35\underline{(5)}\underline{(4)}(a)$ performed by his or her office, the clerk must report the revenue deficit to the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation in the manner and form prescribed by the corporation pursuant to contract with the Chief Financial Officer. The corporation shall verify that the proposed budget

is limited to the standard list of court-related functions in s. $28.35(5) \cdot (4)$ (a).

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If the corporation verifies that the proposed budget (a) is limited to the standard list of court-related functions in s. $28.35(5) \cdot (4)$ (a) and a revenue deficit is projected, a clerk seeking to retain revenues pursuant to this subsection shall increase all fees, service charges, and any other court-related clerk fees and charges to the maximum amounts specified by law or the amount necessary to resolve the deficit, whichever is less. If, after increasing fees, service charges, and any other court-related clerk fees and charges to the maximum amounts specified by law, a revenue deficit is still projected, the corporation shall, pursuant to the terms of the contract with the Chief Financial Officer, certify a revenue deficit and notify the Department of Revenue that the clerk is authorized to retain revenues, in an amount necessary to fully fund the projected revenue deficit, which he or she would otherwise be required to remit to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Department of Revenue Clerks of the Court Trust Fund pursuant to s. 28.37. If a revenue deficit is projected for that clerk after retaining all of the projected collections from the court-related fines, fees, service charges, and costs, the Department of Revenue shall certify the amount of the revenue deficit amount to the Executive Office of the Governor and request release authority for funds appropriated for this purpose from the Department of Revenue Clerks of the Court Trust Fund. Notwithstanding provisions of s. 216.192 related to the release of funds, the Executive Office of the Governor may

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approve the release of funds appropriated to resolve projected revenue deficits in accordance with the notice, review, and objection procedures set forth in s. 216.177 and shall provide notice to the Chief Financial Officer. The Department of Revenue is directed to request monthly distributions from the Chief Financial Officer in equal amounts to each clerk certified to have a revenue deficit, in accordance with the releases approved by the Governor.

- (b) If the Chief Financial Officer finds the court-related budget proposed by a clerk includes functions not included in the standard list of court-related functions in s.

 28.35(5)(4)(a), the Chief Financial Officer shall notify the clerk of the amount of the proposed budget not eligible to be funded from fees, service charges, costs, and fines for court-related functions and shall identify appropriate corrective measures to ensure budget integrity. The clerk shall then immediately discontinue all ineligible expenditures of court-related funds for this purpose and reimburse the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund for any previously ineligible expenditures made for non-court-related functions, and shall implement any corrective actions identified by the Chief Financial Officer.
- (5)(a) For the county fiscal year October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005, the maximum annual budget amount for the standard list of court-related functions of the clerks of court in s. 28.35(5)(4)(a) that may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court shall not exceed:

1. One hundred and three percent of the clerk's estimated expenditures for the prior county fiscal year; or

- 2. One hundred and five percent of the clerk's estimated expenditures for the prior county fiscal year for those clerks in counties that for calendar years 1998-2002 experienced an average annual increase of at least 5 percent in both population and case filings for all case types as reported through the Summary Reporting System used by the state courts system.
- (b) For the county fiscal year 2005-2006, the maximum budget amount for the standard list of court-related functions of the clerks of court in s. 28.35(5)(4)(a) that may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court shall be the approved budget for county fiscal year 2004-2005 adjusted by the projected percentage change in revenue between the county fiscal years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.
- (c) For the county fiscal years 2006-2007 and thereafter, the maximum budget amount for the standard list of court-related functions of the clerks of court in s. 28.35(5)(4)(a) that may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court shall be established by first rebasing the prior fiscal year budget to reflect the actual percentage change in the prior fiscal year revenue and then adjusting the rebased prior fiscal year budget by the projected percentage change in revenue for the proposed budget year. The rebasing calculations and maximum annual budget calculations shall be as follows:

1. For county fiscal year 2006-2007, the approved budget for county fiscal year 2004-2005 shall be adjusted for the actual percentage change in revenue between the two 12-month periods ending June 30, 2005, and June 30, 2006. This result is the rebased budget for the county fiscal year 2005-2006. Then the rebased budget for the county fiscal year 2005-2006 shall be adjusted by the projected percentage change in revenue between the county fiscal years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. This result shall be the maximum annual budget amount for the standard list of court-related functions of the clerks of court in s.

28.35(5)(4)(a) that may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court for each clerk for the county fiscal year 2006-2007.

- 2. For county fiscal year 2007-2008, the rebased budget for county fiscal year 2005-2006 shall be adjusted for the actual percentage change in revenue between the two 12-month periods ending June 30, 2006, and June 30, 2007. This result is the rebased budget for the county fiscal year 2006-2007. The rebased budget for county fiscal year 2006-2007 shall be adjusted by the projected percentage change in revenue between the county fiscal years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. This result shall be the maximum annual budget amount for the standard list of court-related functions of the clerks of court in s.

 28.35(5)(4)(a) that may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court for county fiscal year 2007-2008.
- 3. For county fiscal years 2008-2009 and thereafter, the maximum budget amount for the standard list of court-related

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functions of the clerks of court in s. 28.35(5)(4)(a) that may be funded from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines retained by the clerks of the court shall be calculated as the rebased budget for the prior county fiscal year adjusted by the projected percentage change in revenues between the prior county fiscal year and the county fiscal year for which the maximum budget amount is being authorized. The rebased budget for the prior county fiscal year shall always be calculated by adjusting the rebased budget for the year preceding the prior county fiscal year by the actual percentage change in revenues between the 12-month period ending June 30 of the year preceding the prior county fiscal year and the 12-month period ending June 30 of the prior county fiscal year.

- (8) Each clerk shall record and report actual expenditures in a format specified by the Clerks of Court Operations

 Corporation that allows reconciliation to the clerk's budget as certified by the corporation. The clerk shall submit reports of such expenditures to the corporation upon request but at least quarterly.
- Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 29.008, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:
 - 29.008 County funding of court-related functions.--
- (4)(a) A county may be determined not to be in compliance with its responsibility to fund court-related functions if:
- 1. The amount budgeted by the county in the upcoming or current county fiscal year for any item specified in paragraphs
 (1)(a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h) and subsection (3) is

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less than the amount spent for that item in county fiscal year
2002-2003, the base year, plus 1.5 percent growth per year; and

- 2. The chief judge asserts that deficiencies will exist in the functioning of the circuit court due to the lack of sufficient budget for that item which the county is funding at less than the base year plus 1.5 percent growth per year.
- (b) The process for determining whether a county is not in compliance with its funding responsibility shall be as follows:
- 1. The chief judge shall identify in writing the specific deficiencies the chief judge asserts will be experienced by the circuit court associated with the county's lack of sufficient support for that item, the recommended corrections, and an estimate of the funding required for such corrections and shall furnish this statement to the board of county commissioners.
- 2. The board shall provide a response in writing to the chief judge. If the board chooses not to amend its budget to provide funding sufficient to equal the funding for the item in the base year plus 1.5 percent growth per year or remedy the specific deficiencies identified by the chief judge, whichever is less, within 30 days after receiving written notice of such action by the board, the chief judge may notify the Administration Commission of the alleged deficiency and explain the expected impact on the ability of the court to perform the court's constitutional and statutory functions. The notice shall set forth, in the form and manner prescribed by the Executive Office of the Governor and approved by the Administration Commission, the specific deficiencies, recommended corrections, estimate of the funding required for such corrections,

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expenditures made by the county in the base year for the items, and budget for the items for the county fiscal year in question. The notice shall be provided to the Executive Office of the Governor and the board. The board shall have 5 days from receipt of the notice to provide to the Executive Office of the Governor a reply to the notice, and the board shall provide a copy of such reply to the chief judge.

- Upon receipt of the notice, the Executive Office of the Governor shall provide for a budget hearing at which the matters presented in the notice and the reply shall be considered. A report of the findings and recommendations of the Executive Office of the Governor on such matters shall be promptly submitted to the Administration Commission, which, within 30 days, shall approve the action of the board as to each separate item or direct the Department of Revenue to withhold revenue sharing funds as provided in paragraph (c) in an amount determined by the Administration Commission to be sufficient to remedy the deficiency; however, in no case shall the amount withheld result in a budget that exceeds the amount spent for the item in the base year plus 1.5 percent growth per year for any item enumerated in subparagraph (a)1. The determination of the Administration Commission shall be final and shall be provided to the chief judge, the board, and the Department of Revenue.
- (c)1. If the Administration Commission determines that the board shall provide additional funding to fulfill its responsibilities under this section Except for revenues used for the payment of principal or interest on bonds, tax anticipation

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certificates, or any other form of indebtedness as allowed under 502 503 s. 218.25(1),(2) or (4), the Department of Revenue shall withhold revenue sharing receipts distributed pursuant to part 504 505 II of chapter 218, except for revenues used for the payment of 506 principal or interest on bonds, tax anticipation certificates, 507 or any other form of indebtedness as allowed under s. 218.25(1), 508 (2), or (4), from that any county determined to be not in 509 compliance as provided in this subsection with the county 510 funding obligations for items specified in paragraphs (1)(a), 511 (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h) and subsection (3). The 512 department shall withhold an amount equal to the difference 513 between the amount spent by the county for the particular item in county fiscal year 2002-2003, the base year, plus 3 percent, 514 515 and the amount budgeted by the county for these obligations in 516 county fiscal year 2004 2005, if the latter is less than the 517 former. Every year thereafter, the department shall withhold 518 such an amount if the amount budgeted in that year is less than 519 the base year plus 1.5 percent growth per year. On or before 520 December 31, 2004, counties shall send to the department a 521 certified copy of their budget documents for the respective 2 522 years, separately identifying expenditure amounts for each 523 county funding obligation specified in paragraphs (1) (a), (c), 524 (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h) and subsection (3). Each year 525 thereafter, on or before December 31 of that year, each county shall send a certified copy of its budget document to the 526 527 department. (b) Beginning in fiscal year 2005-2006, additional amounts 528 529 shall be withheld pursuant to paragraph (a), if the amount spent

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in the previous fiscal year on the items specified in paragraphs (1)(a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h), and subsection (3) is less than the amount budgeted for those items. Each county shall certify expenditures for these county obligations for the prior fiscal year to the department within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year.

- $\frac{2.(c)}{c}$ The department shall transfer the withheld payments to the General Revenue Fund by March 31 of each year. These payments are hereby appropriated to the Department of Revenue to pay for these responsibilities on behalf of the county.
- (5) For purposes of this section, the term "salaries" includes associated fringe benefits or other perquisites that are typically provided by the county to its employees.
- Section 7. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (5) of section 29.0086, Florida Statutes, and subsection (9) of that section is amended, to read:
 - 29.0086 Article V Technology Board. --
 - (5) The board shall:

- (d) By December 15, 2006, provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The report shall contain:
- 1. Recommended statutory language that would provide policy guidance for the strategic plans to be developed and the data integration to be promoted by the Judicial Circuit Article V Technology Advisory Councils.
- 2. Recommended policies to be adopted by the Office of the State Courts Administrator within the framework provided by the

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recommended statutory language provided under subparagraph 1.
regarding circuit information technology.

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- 3. A description of any further progress made on efforts to develop a catalog of common data elements.
- (9) This section is repealed effective <u>January 1, 2007</u> July 1, 2006.
- Section 8. Section 29.0087, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 29.0087 Judicial Circuit Article V Technology Advisory
 Councils.--
 - (1) There shall be established in each judicial circuit a Judicial Circuit Article V Technology Advisory Council.
 - (a) The membership of the council shall include:
 - 1. The chief judge of the circuit court, or his or her designee, who shall serve as chair.
 - 2. The state attorney of the circuit or his or her designee.
 - 3. The public defender of the circuit or his or her designee.
 - 4. A sheriff from a county in the circuit selected by the chief judge, or the sheriff's designee, who shall be appointed to an initial term of 1 year and shall serve 2-year terms thereafter.
 - 5. A clerk from a county in the circuit selected by the chief judge, or the clerk's designee, who shall be appointed to an initial term of 1 year and shall serve 2-year terms thereafter.

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6. A member of a board of county commissioners from a county in the circuit selected by the chief judge, or the member's designee, who shall be appointed to an initial term of 2 years and shall serve 2-year terms thereafter.

- 7. A member in good standing of The Florida Bar practicing in the circuit, appointed by the chief judge.
- (b)1. There shall be no limit to the number of terms a member may serve. For multicounty circuits, to the extent possible, the members provided in subparagraphs (a)4.-6. shall be from different counties.
- 2. Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061. Such per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses shall be paid by the entity employing the member, except for the member of The Florida Bar, whose per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses shall be paid by the judicial circuit.
- (c) The judicial circuit information technology director and such other judicial circuit employees as are necessary shall serve as staff to the advisory council. Employees of the entities represented by the members of the advisory council may also provide staff support to the advisory council at the request of the judicial circuit information technology director.
- (d) The first meeting of the advisory council shall be held no later than September 30, 2006. The advisory council shall meet at the call of the chair but no less frequently than quarterly.

(2) The advisory council shall work to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of the justice system in the circuit and the state as well as to ensure the security of data.

- (3) The duties of the advisory council shall include:
- (a) Developing an initial strategic plan and subsequent updated strategic plans to address court-related technology and court technology needs as described in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h). Such plans shall comply with any policies adopted by the Office of the State Courts Administrator regarding circuit-level information technology services. The initial strategic plan or subsequent updated strategic plans shall be provided to the chief judge no later than March 31 of each year.
- (b) Promoting secure and reliable data integration, interoperability, and access among the information systems under the control of the chief judge, state attorney, and public defender; the clerks of court, sheriffs, and counties of the circuit; and the various state agencies involved in the justice system and the other court systems of the state.
- Section 9. Subsections (4) and (6) of section 44.103, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 44.103 Court-ordered, nonbinding arbitration. --
- (4) An arbitrator or, in the case of a panel, the chief arbitrator, shall have such power to administer oaths or affirmation and to conduct the proceedings as the rules of court shall provide. The proceedings shall be conducted informally.

 Presentation of testimony and evidence shall be kept to a minimum and matters shall be presented to the arbitrators primarily through the statements and arguments of counsel. At

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the request of Any party to the arbitration may petition the court in the underlying action, for good cause shown, to authorize the, such arbitrator to shall issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence at the arbitration and may petition apply to the court for orders compelling such attendance and production at the arbitration. Subpoenas shall be served and shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

- entry of a judgment, the court may assess costs against the party requesting a trial de novo, including arbitration costs, court costs, reasonable attorney's fees, and other reasonable costs, such as investigation expenses and expenses for expert or other testimony that were incurred after the arbitration hearing and continuing through the trial of the case, in accordance with the guidelines for taxation of costs as adopted by the Supreme Court. Such costs may be assessed if:
- (a) The plaintiff, having filed for a trial de novo, obtains a judgment at trial that is at least 25 percent less than the arbitration award. In such an instance, the costs and attorney's fees assessed pursuant to this subsection shall be set off against the award. When the costs and attorney's fees assessed pursuant to this subsection total more than the amount of the judgment, the court shall enter judgment for the defendant against the plaintiff for the amount of the costs and attorney's fees, less the amount of the award to the plaintiff. For purposes of a determination under this paragraph, the term "judgment" means the amount of the net judgment entered plus all

as adopted by the Supreme Court, any postarbitration collateral source payments received or due as of the date of the judgment, and any postarbitration settlement amounts by which the verdict was reduced; or

(b) The defendant, having filed for a trial de novo, has a judgment entered against the defendant that is a least 25 percent more than the arbitration award. For purposes of a determination under this paragraph, the term "judgment" means the amount of the net judgment entered plus any postarbitration settlement amounts by which the verdict was reduced. The party having filed for a trial de novo may be assessed the arbitration costs, court costs, and other reasonable costs of the party, including attorney's fees, investigation expenses, and expenses for expert or other testimony or evidence incurred after the arbitration hearing if the judgment upon the trial de novo is not more favorable than the arbitration decision.

Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 218.245, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 44 of chapter 2005-236, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

218.245 Revenue sharing; apportionment. --

(3) Revenues attributed to the increase in distribution to the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund for Municipalities pursuant to s. 212.20(6)(d)6. from 1.0715 percent to 1.3409 percent provided in chapter 2003-402, Laws of Florida, shall be distributed to each eligible municipality and any unit of local government which is consolidated as provided by s. 9, Art. VIII of the State Constitution of 1885, as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII, 1968

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revised constitution, as follows: each eligible local government's allocation shall be based on the amount it received from the half-cent sales tax under s. 218.61 in the prior state fiscal year divided by the total receipts under s. 218.61 in the prior state fiscal year for all eligible local governments; provided, however, for the purpose of calculating this distribution, the amount received from the half-cent sales tax under s. 218.61 in the prior state fiscal year by a unit of local government which is consolidated as provided by s. 9, Art. VIII of the State Constitution of 1885, as amended, and as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII, of the Constitution as revised in 1968, shall be reduced by 42 50 percent for such local government and for the total receipts. For eligible municipalities that began participating in the allocation of half-cent sales tax under s. 218.61 in the previous state fiscal year, their annual receipts shall be calculated by dividing their actual receipts by the number of months they participated, and the result multiplied by 12.

Section 11. Subsection (13) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.18 Amount of civil penalties.--The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 are as follows:

(13) In addition to any penalties imposed for noncriminal traffic infractions pursuant to this chapter or imposed for criminal violations listed in s. 318.17, a board of county commissioners or any unit of local government which is consolidated as provided by s. 9, Art. VIII of the State

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Constitution of 1885, as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the Constitution of 1968:

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- (a) May impose by ordinance a surcharge of up to \$15 for any infraction or violation to fund state court facilities. The court shall not waive this surcharge. Up to 25 percent of the revenue from such surcharge may be used to support local law libraries provided that the county or unit of local government provides a level of service equal to that provided prior to July 1, 2004, which shall include the continuation of library facilities located in or near the county courthouse or annexes.
- That imposed increased fees or service charges by ordinance under s. 28.2401, s. 28.241, or s. 34.041 for the purpose of securing payment of the principal and interest on bonds issued by the county before July 1, 2003, to finance state court facilities, may impose by ordinance a surcharge for any infraction or violation for the exclusive purpose of securing payment of the principal and interest on bonds issued by the county before July 1, 2003, to fund state court facilities until the date of stated maturity. The court shall not waive this surcharge. Such surcharge may not exceed an amount per violation calculated as the quotient of the maximum annual payment of the principal and interest on the bonds as of July 1, 2003, divided by the number of traffic citations for county fiscal year 2002-2003 certified as paid by the clerk of the court of the county. Such quotient shall be rounded up to the next highest dollar amount. The bonds may be refunded only if savings will be realized on payments of debt service and the refunding bonds are

scheduled to mature on the same date or before the bonds being refunded.

A county may not impose both of the surcharges authorized under paragraphs (a) and (b) concurrently. The county clerk of court shall report, no later than 30 days after the end of the quarter, the amount of funds collected, the amount of funds expended, and the uses of the funds under this subsection during each quarter of the fiscal year. The county clerk shall submit the report, in a format developed by the Office of State Courts Administrator, to the chief judge of the circuit, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 12. Section 903.286, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

903.286 Return of cash bond; requirement to withhold unpaid fines, fees, and court costs.--Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 903.31(2), the clerk of the court shall withhold from the return of a cash bond posted after June 30, 2005, on behalf of a criminal defendant by a person other than a bail bond agent licensed pursuant to chapter 648 sufficient funds to pay any unpaid court fees, court costs, and criminal penalties. The clerk of the court shall provide notice of such withholding of funds and an itemized listing of the specific amounts subject to such withholding to such persons prior to the posting of the cash bond. In the event that sufficient funds are not available to pay all unpaid court fees, court costs, and criminal penalties, the clerk of the court shall immediately

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obtain payment from the defendant or enroll the defendant in a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246.

- Section 13. Subsections (1), (2), and (8) of section 938.27, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 938.27 Judgment for costs on conviction. --

- (1) In all criminal cases, convicted persons or parents of adjudicated juveniles are liable for payment of the documented costs of prosecution, including investigative costs incurred by law enforcement agencies, by fire departments for arson investigations, and by investigations of the Department of Financial Services or the Office of Financial Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, if requested by such agencies. These costs shall be included and entered in the judgment rendered against the convicted person or adjudicated juvenile.
- (2) (a) If the court allows additional time for payment of such costs, the convicted person or the parents of the adjudicated juvenile shall be enrolled in a payment plan pursuant to s. 28.246(4) The court shall require the defendant to pay the costs within a specified period or in specified installments.
- (b) The end of such period or the last such installment shall not be later than:
- 1. The end of the period of probation or community control, if probation or community control is ordered;
- 2. Five years after the end of the term of imprisonment imposed, if the court does not order probation or community control; or

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3. Five years after the date of sentencing in any other case.

- However, in no event shall the obligation to pay any unpaid amounts expire if not paid in full within the period specified in this paragraph.
- $\frac{(b)}{(c)}$ If not otherwise provided by the court under this section, costs shall be paid immediately.
 - (8) Costs that are collected by the state attorney under this section shall be deposited into the state attorney's grants and donations trust fund to be used during the fiscal year in which the funds are collected, or in any subsequent fiscal year, for actual expenses incurred in investigating and prosecuting criminal cases, which may include the salaries of permanent employees.
 - Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 938.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 938.29 Legal assistance; lien for payment of attorney's fees or costs.--
 - (1)(a) A defendant determined to be guilty of a criminal act or found to have committed a delinquent act by a court or jury or through a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, regardless of adjudication, and who has received the assistance of the public defender's office, a special assistant public defender, or a court-appointed conflict attorney shall be liable for payment of attorney's fees and costs. The court shall determine the amount of the obligation. Such costs shall include, but not be limited to, the cost of depositions; cost of transcripts of

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depositions, including the cost of defendant's copy, which transcripts are certified by the defendant's attorney as having served a useful purpose in the disposition of the case; investigative costs; witness fees; the cost of psychiatric examinations; or other reasonable costs specially incurred by the state and the clerk of court for the defense of the defendant in criminal prosecutions. Costs shall not include expenses inherent in providing a constitutionally guaranteed jury trial or expenditures in connection with the maintenance and operation of government agencies that must be made by the public irrespective of specific violations of law. Any costs assessed pursuant to this paragraph shall be reduced by any amount assessed against a defendant pursuant to s. 938.05.

Section 15. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 948.15, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, present subsection (3) is renumbered as subsection (4), paragraph (e) of that subsection is amended, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

948.15 Misdemeanor probation services.--

(3) The entity providing probation services for offenders sentenced by the county court shall establish a process to collect payments for all offender fees, fines, and costs imposed by the court, restitution owed by the misdemeanor probationer, and the cost of supervision. If a payment made by the misdemeanor probationer is not sufficient to cover the total installment required under a payment plan imposed by the court plus any additional payments that are outstanding, the payment made by the misdemeanor probationer shall be allocated

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proportionally among any fees, fines, and costs imposed by the court, restitution owed by the misdemeanor probationer, and the cost of supervision based upon the percentage that the sum owed for each type of payment comprises of the total owed for all types of payments. The entity providing probation services shall provide any funds collected in accordance with this subsection, within 30 days after collection, to the payee to whom the funds are owed.

- (4)(3) Any private entity providing services for the supervision of misdemeanor probationers must contract with the county in which the services are to be rendered. In a county with a population of less than 70,000, the county court judge, or the administrative judge of the county court in a county that has more than one county court judge, must approve the contract. Terms of the contract must state, but are not limited to:
- (e) Procedures for handling the collection <u>in accordance</u> with subsection (3) of all payments owed by an offender fees and restitution.

In addition, the entity shall supply the chief judge's office with a quarterly report summarizing the number of offenders supervised by the private entity, payment of the required contribution under supervision or rehabilitation, and the number of offenders for whom supervision or rehabilitation will be terminated. All records of the entity must be open to inspection upon the request of the county, the court, the Auditor General, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, or agents thereof.

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Section 16. <u>Section 939.185</u>, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as section 938.195, Florida Statutes.

Section 17. Subsection (3) of section 775.083, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (2) of that section, and present subsection (2) of that section is transferred to section 938.065, Florida Statutes, which is created, and amended to read:

938.065 County crime prevention programs. --

Court costs shall be assessed and collected in each instance a defendant pleads nolo contendere to, or is convicted of, or adjudicated delinquent for, a felony, a misdemeanor, or a criminal traffic offense under state law, or a violation of any municipal or county ordinance if the violation constitutes a misdemeanor under state law. The court costs imposed by this section shall be \$50 for a felony and \$20 for any other offense and shall be deposited by the clerk of the court into an appropriate county account for disbursement for the purposes provided in this subsection. A county shall account for the funds separately from other county funds as crime prevention funds. The county, in consultation with the sheriff, must expend such funds for crime prevention programs in the county, including safe neighborhood programs under ss. 163.501-163.523.

Section 18. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of section 938.17, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

938.17 County delinquency prevention; juvenile assessment centers and school board suspension programs.--

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(1) Prior to the use of costs received pursuant to s. 938.195 939.185, the sheriff's office of the county must be a partner in a written agreement with the Department of Juvenile Justice to participate in a juvenile assessment center or with the district school board to participate in a suspension program.

- (2) Assessments collected by clerks of the circuit courts comprised of more than one county shall remit the funds collected pursuant to s. 938.195 939.185 to the county in which the offense at issue was committed for deposit and disbursement.
- (4) A sheriff's office that receives proceeds pursuant to s. 938.195 939.185 shall account for all funds annually by August 1 in a written report to the juvenile justice county council if funds are used for assessment centers, and to the district school board if funds are used for suspension programs.

Section 19. Subsection (7) of section 938.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

938.19 Teen courts.--

(7) A teen court administered in a county that adopts an ordinance to assess court costs under this section may not receive court costs collected under s. 938.195(1)(a)4.

Section 20. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section 948.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

948.08 Pretrial intervention program.--

(6)

(d) Any entity, whether public or private, providing a pretrial substance abuse education and treatment intervention

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program under this subsection must contract with the county or appropriate governmental entity, and the terms of the contract must include, but need not be limited to, the requirements established for private entities under s. 948.15(4)(3).

Section 21. Subsection (3) of section 948.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 948.16 Misdemeanor pretrial substance abuse education and treatment intervention program.--
- (3) Any public or private entity providing a pretrial substance abuse education and treatment program under this section shall contract with the county or appropriate governmental entity. The terms of the contract shall include, but not be limited to, the requirements established for private entities under s. 948.15(4)(3).

Section 22. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 985.306, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

985.306 Delinquency pretrial intervention program.-(1)

(d) Any entity, whether public or private, providing pretrial substance abuse education, treatment intervention, and a urine monitoring program under this section must contract with the county or appropriate governmental entity, and the terms of the contract must include, but need not be limited to, the requirements established for private entities under s.

948.15(4)(3). It is the intent of the Legislature that public or private entities providing substance abuse education and treatment intervention programs involve the active participation

of parents, schools, churches, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and the department or its contract providers. Section 23. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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