



830072

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/02/2018	.	
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The Committee on Appropriations (Steube) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete line 149

and insert:

Section 5. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (3) of section 105.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

105.031 Qualification; filing fee; candidate's oath; items required to be filed.—

(3) QUALIFYING FEE.—



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11        (a) Each candidate qualifying for election to a judicial  
12 office or the office of school board member, except write-in  
13 judicial or school board candidates, shall, during the time for  
14 qualifying, pay to the officer with whom he or she qualifies a  
15 qualifying fee, which shall consist of a filing fee and an  
16 election assessment, or qualify by the petition process. The  
17 amount of the filing fee is 3 percent of the annual salary of  
18 the office sought. The amount of the election assessment is 1  
19 percent of the annual salary of the office sought. Except as  
20 provided in paragraph (b), the Department of State shall  
21 transfer all filing fees to the Department of Legal Affairs for  
22 deposit in the Elections Commission Trust Fund and- the  
23 supervisor of elections shall forward all filing fees to the  
24 Elections Commission Trust Fund. The election assessment shall  
25 be deposited into the Elections Commission Trust Fund. The  
26 annual salary of the office for purposes of computing the  
27 qualifying fee shall be computed by multiplying 12 times the  
28 monthly salary authorized for such office as of July 1  
29 immediately preceding the first day of qualifying. This  
30 paragraph subsection does not apply to candidates qualifying for  
31 retention to judicial office.

32        (b) Not later than 20 days after the close of qualifying,  
33 the Department of State or the supervisor of elections, as  
34 appropriate, shall refund the full amount of the qualifying fee  
35 to a candidate for the office of circuit court judge or county  
36 court judge who is unopposed at the time the qualifying period  
37 closes.

38        Section 6. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
39 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon



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40 becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

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42 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

43 And the title is amended as follows:

44 Delete lines 2 - 33

45 and insert:

46 An act relating to the judicial branch; creating s.  
47 25.025, F.S.; authorizing certain Supreme Court  
48 Justices to have an appropriate facility in their  
49 district of residence designated as their official  
50 headquarters; providing that an official headquarters  
51 may serve only as a justice's private chambers;  
52 providing that such justices are eligible for a  
53 certain subsistence allowance and reimbursement for  
54 certain transportation expenses; requiring that such  
55 allowance and reimbursement be made to the extent  
56 appropriated funds are available, as determined by the  
57 Chief Justice; requiring the Chief Justice to  
58 coordinate with certain persons in implementing  
59 designations of official headquarters; providing that  
60 a county is not required to provide space for a  
61 justice in a county courthouse; authorizing counties  
62 to enter into agreements with the Supreme Court for  
63 the use of county courthouse space; prohibiting the  
64 Supreme Court from using state funds to lease space in  
65 a facility to allow a justice to establish an official  
66 headquarters; amending s. 26.031, F.S.; adding judges  
67 to the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court; amending s.  
68 34.01, F.S.; increasing the limit of the amount in



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69 controversy in certain actions at law under which the  
70 county court has original jurisdiction of such  
71 actions; providing for adjustments to the limit at  
72 specified intervals due to inflation or deflation;  
73 specifying filing fees, services charges, and a  
74 requirement for the clerk of court's remittal of such  
75 fees in actions in which the amount in controversy  
76 exceeds a specified amount; amending s. 34.022, F.S.;  
77 adding judges to certain county courts; amending s.  
78 105.031, F.S.; requiring the appropriate qualifying  
79 officer to refund the qualifying fee to an unopposed  
80 candidate for the office of circuit court judge or  
81 county court judge by a specified date; providing  
82 effective dates.