House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

Floor: NC/2R 05/02/2019 11:39 AM

Senator Brandes moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Effective January 1, 2020, subsection (2) of section 28.241, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

28.241 Filing fees for trial and appellate proceedings.-

(2) (a) Upon the institution of any appellate proceeding from any lower court to the circuit court of any such county, including appeals filed by a county or municipality as provided in s. 34.041(5), or from the circuit court to an appellate court

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12 of the state, the clerk shall charge and collect from the party 13 or parties instituting such appellate proceedings: 14 1. A filing fee not to exceed \$280 for filing a notice of 15 appeal from the county court to the circuit court, excluding a 16 civil case in which the matter in controversy was more than 17 \$15,000. 18 2. A filing fee not to exceed \$400 for filing a notice of 19 appeal from the county court to the circuit court for a civil 20 case in which the matter in controversy was more than \$15,000. 21 The clerk shall remit \$270 of each filing fee collected under 22 this subparagraph to the Department of Revenue for deposit into 23 the General Revenue Fund and the clerk shall remit \$50 of each 24 filing fee to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 25 State Courts Revenue Trust Fund to fund court operations as 26 authorized in the General Appropriations Act. The clerk shall 27 retain an accounting of each such remittance. and, 28 3. In addition to the filing fee required under s. 25.241 29 or s. 35.22, \$100 for filing a notice of appeal from the circuit 30 court to the district court of appeal or to the Supreme Court. (b) If the party is determined to be indigent, the clerk 31 32 shall defer payment of the fee otherwise required by this 33 subsection. 34 Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 28.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 35 36 28.35 Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation.-37 (2) The duties of the corporation shall include the 38 following: 39 (f) Approving the proposed budgets submitted by clerks of 40 the court pursuant to s. 28.36. The corporation must ensure that

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the total combined budgets of the clerks of the court do not 41 exceed the total estimated revenues from fees, service charges, 42 43 costs, and fines for court-related functions available for 44 court-related expenditures as determined by the most recent 45 Revenue Estimating Conference, plus the total of unspent budgeted funds for court-related functions carried forward by 46 47 the clerks of the court from the previous county fiscal year and 48 plus the balance of funds remaining in the Clerk of the Court 49 Trust Fund after the transfer of funds to the General Revenue 50 Fund required pursuant to s. 28.37(3)(b). The corporation may 51 amend any individual clerk of the court budget to ensure 52 compliance with this paragraph and must consider performance 53 measures, workload performance standards, workload measures, and 54 expense data before modifying the budget. As part of this 55 process, the corporation shall:

1. Calculate the minimum amount of revenue necessary for each clerk of the court to efficiently perform the list of court-related functions specified in paragraph (3)(a). The corporation shall apply the workload measures appropriate for determining the individual level of review required to fund the clerk's budget.

2. Prepare a cost comparison of similarly situated clerks
of the court, based on county population and numbers of filings,
using the standard list of court-related functions specified in
paragraph (3)(a).

3. Conduct an annual base budget review and an annual
budget exercise examining the total budget of each clerk of the
court. The review shall examine revenues from all sources,
expenses of court-related functions, and expenses of noncourt-

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70 related functions as necessary to determine that court-related 71 revenues are not being used for noncourt-related purposes. The 72 review and exercise shall identify potential targeted budget 73 reductions in the percentage amount provided in Schedule VIII-B 74 of the state's previous year's legislative budget instructions, 75 as referenced in s. 216.023(3), or an equivalent schedule or 76 instruction as may be adopted by the Legislature.

4. Identify those proposed budgets containing funding for items not included on the standard list of court-related functions specified in paragraph (3)(a).

5. Identify those clerks projected to have court-related revenues insufficient to fund their anticipated court-related expenditures.

6. Use revenue estimates based on the official estimate for funds <u>from fees</u>, <u>service charges</u>, <u>costs</u>, <u>and fines for court</u>-<u>related functions</u> accruing to the clerks of the court made by the Revenue Estimating Conference, <u>as well as any unspent</u> <u>budgeted funds for court-related functions carried forward by</u> <u>the clerks of the court from the previous county fiscal year and</u> <u>the balance of funds remaining in the Clerk of the Court Trust</u> <u>Fund after the transfer of funds to the General Revenue Fund</u> <u>required pursuant to s. 28.37(3)(b)</u>. The total combined budgets of the clerks of the court may not exceed the revenue estimates established by the most recent Revenue Estimating Conference.

94 7. Identify pay and benefit increases in any proposed clerk
95 budget, including, but not limited to, cost of living increases,
96 merit increases, and bonuses.

8. Identify increases in anticipated expenditures in any clerk budget that exceeds the current year budget by more than 3

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99 percent. 9. Identify the budget of any clerk which exceeds the 100 101 average budget of similarly situated clerks by more than 10 102 percent. 103 104 For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "unspent budgeted 105 funds for court-related functions" means undisbursed funds 106 included in the clerks of the courts budgets for court-related 107 functions established pursuant to this section and s. 28.36. 108 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 109 28.36, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 110 28.36 Budget procedure.-There is established a budget 111 procedure for the court-related functions of the clerks of the 112 court. 113 (2) Each proposed budget shall further conform to the 114 following requirements: 115 (b) The proposed budget must be balanced such that the 116 total of the estimated revenues available equals or exceeds the 117 total of the anticipated expenditures. Such revenues include 118 revenue projected to be received from fees, service charges, 119 costs, and fines for court-related functions during the fiscal period covered by the budget, plus the total <u>of unspent budgeted</u> 120 121 funds for court-related functions carried forward by the clerk 122 of the court from the previous county fiscal year and plus the 123 portion of the balance of funds remaining in the Clerk of the 124 Court Trust Fund after the transfer of funds to the General 125 Revenue Fund required pursuant to s. 28.37(3)(b) which has been 126 allocated to each respective clerk of the court by the Clerk of 127 Courts Corporation. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term

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| 128 | "unspent budgeted funds for court-related functions" means |
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| 129 | undisbursed funds included in the clerk of the courts' budget |
| 130 | for court related functions established pursuant to s. 28.35 and |
| 131 | this section. The anticipated expenditures must be itemized as |
| 132 | required by the corporation. |
| 133 | Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 28.37, Florida |
| 134 | Statutes, is amended to read: |
| 135 | 28.37 Fines, fees, service charges, and costs remitted to |
| 136 | the state |
| 137 | (3) <u>(a) Each year,</u> no later than January 25, 2015, and each |
| 138 | January 25 thereafter for the previous county fiscal year, the |
| 139 | clerks of court, in consultation with the Florida Clerks of |
| 140 | Court Operations Corporation, shall remit to the Department of |
| 141 | Revenue for deposit in the <u>Clerks of the Court Trust Fund</u> |
| 142 | General Revenue Fund the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, |
| 143 | service charges, and costs retained by the clerks of the court, |
| 144 | plus any funds received by the clerks of the court from the |
| 145 | Clerks of the Court Trust Fund under s. 28.36(3), which exceed |
| 146 | the amount needed to meet their authorized budget amounts |
| 147 | established under s. 28.35. |
| 148 | (b)1. No later than February 1, 2020, the Department of |
| 149 | Revenue shall transfer from the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund |
| 150 | to the General Revenue Fund the sum of the cumulative excess of |
| 151 | all fines, fees, service charges, and costs submitted by the |
| 152 | clerks of court pursuant to subsection (2) and the cumulative |
| 153 | excess of all fines, fees, service charges, and costs remitted |
| 154 | by the clerks of court pursuant to paragraph (a) in excess of |
| 155 | \$10 million. |
| 156 | 2. No later than February 1, 2021, the Department of |
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157 Revenue shall transfer from the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund 158 to the General Revenue Fund not less than 50 percent of the sum of the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, service charges, 159 160 and costs submitted by the clerks of court pursuant to 161 subsection (2) and the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, 162 service charges, and costs remitted by the clerks of court 163 pursuant to paragraph (a); provided however, the balance 164 remaining in the Clerks of Courts Trust Fund after such transfer 165 may not be more than \$20 million. 166 3. No later than February 1, 2022, the Department of Revenue shall transfer from the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund 167 168 to the General Revenue Fund not less than 50 percent of the sum 169 of the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, service charges, 170 and costs submitted by the clerks of court pursuant to 171 subsection (2) and the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, 172 service charges, and costs remitted by the clerks of court 173 pursuant to paragraph (a); provided however, the balance 174 remaining in the Clerks of Courts Trust Fund after such transfer 175 may not be more than \$20 million. 176 4. No later than February 1, 2023, and each February 1 177 thereafter, the Department of Revenue shall transfer from the 178 Clerks of the Court Trust Fund to the General Revenue Fund the 179 cumulative excess of all fines, fees, service charges, and costs submitted by the clerks of court pursuant to subsection (2) and 180 181 the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, service charges, and 182 costs remitted by the clerks of court pursuant to paragraph (a).

- 183 The Department of Revenue shall transfer from the Clerks of
- 184 Court Trust Fund to the General Revenue Fund the cumulative
- 185 excess of all fines, fees, service charges, and costs submitted

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186 the clerks of court pursuant to subsection (2). However, if bv-187 the official estimate for funds accruing to the clerks of court 188 made by the Revenue Estimating Conference for the current fiscal 189 year or the next fiscal year is less than the cumulative amount 190 of authorized budgets for the clerks of court for the current 191 fiscal year, the Department of Revenue shall retain in the 192 Clerks of the Court Trust Fund the estimated amount needed to 193 fully fund the clerks of court for the current and next fiscal 194 year based upon the current budget established under s. 28.35.

Section 5. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (1) of section 27.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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27.52 Determination of indigent status.-

(1) APPLICATION TO THE CLERK.—A person seeking appointment of a public defender under s. 27.51 based upon an inability to pay must apply to the clerk of the court for a determination of indigent status using an application form developed by the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation with final approval by the Supreme Court.

(b) An applicant shall pay a \$50 application fee to the clerk for each application for court-appointed counsel filed. The applicant shall pay the fee within 7 days after submitting the application. If the applicant does not pay the fee prior to the disposition of the case, the clerk shall notify the court, and the court shall:

212 1. Assess the application fee as part of the sentence or as213 a condition of probation; or

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2. Assess the application fee pursuant to s. 938.29.

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215 (d) All application fees collected by the clerk under this 216 section shall be transferred monthly by the clerk to the 217 Department of Revenue for deposit in the Indigent Criminal 218 Defense Trust Fund administered by the Justice Administrative 219 Commission, to be used to as appropriated by the Legislature. 220 The clerk may retain 2 percent of application fees collected 221 monthly for administrative costs from which the clerk shall 222 remit \$0.20 from each application fee to the Department of 223 Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund prior to 224 remitting the remainder to the Department of Revenue for deposit 225 in the Indigent Criminal Defense Trust Fund.

Section 6. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsections (1), (2), (3), (4), (6), and (8), paragraph (b) of subsection (10), subsections (13), (14), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), and (25), and paragraph (a) of subsection (26) of section 28.24, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

232 28.24 Service charges.-The clerk of the circuit court shall 233 charge for services rendered manually or electronically by the clerk's office in recording documents and instruments and in performing other specified duties. These charges may not exceed those specified in this section, except as provided in s. 28.345.

Charges

241 (1) For examining, comparing, correcting, verifying, and 242 certifying transcripts of record in appellate proceedings, prepared by attorney for appellant or someone else other than 243

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| 244 | clerk, per page 5.00, from which the clerk shall remit 0.50 per |
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| 245 | page to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General |
| 246 | Revenue Fund. |
| 247 | (2) For preparing, numbering, and indexing an original |
| 248 | record of appellate proceedings, per instrument 3.50, from which |
| 249 | the clerk shall remit 0.50 per instrument to the Department of |
| 250 | Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 251 | (3) For certifying copies of any instrument in the public |
| 252 | records 2.00, from which the clerk shall remit 0.50 to the |
| 253 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 254 | (4) For verifying any instrument presented for |
| 255 | certification prepared by someone other than clerk, per page |
| 256 | 3.50, from which the clerk shall remit 0.50 per page to the |
| 257 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 258 | (6) For making microfilm copies of any public records: |
| 259 | (a) 16 mm 100' microfilm roll 42.00, from which the clerk |
| 260 | shall remit 4.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into |
| 261 | the General Revenue Fund. |
| 262 | (b) 35 mm 100' microfilm roll 60.00, from which the clerk |
| 263 | shall remit 7.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into |
| 264 | the General Revenue Fund. |
| 265 | (c) Microfiche, per fiche 3.50, from which the clerk shall |
| 266 | remit 0.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the |
| 267 | General Revenue Fund. |
| 268 | (8) For writing any paper other than herein specifically |
| 269 | mentioned, same as for copying, including signing and sealing |
| 270 | 7.00, from which the clerk shall remit 1.00 to the Department of |
| 271 | Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 272 | (10) For receiving money into the registry of court: |
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273 (b) Eminent domain actions, per deposit 170.00, from which the clerk shall remit 20.00 per deposit to the Department of 274 Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 275 276 (13) Oath, administering, attesting, and sealing, not 277 otherwise provided for herein 3.50, from which the clerk shall 278 remit 0.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 279 General Revenue Fund. (14) For validating certificates, any authorized bonds, 280 each 3.50, from which the clerk shall remit 0.50 each to the 281 282 Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 283 (16) For exemplified certificates, including signing and 284 sealing 7.00, from which the clerk shall remit 1.00 to the 285 Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 286 (17) For authenticated certificates, including signing and 287 sealing 7.00, from which the clerk shall remit 1.00 to the 288 Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 289 (18) (a) For issuing and filing a subpoena for a witness, 290 not otherwise provided for herein (includes writing, preparing, signing, and sealing) 7.00, from which the clerk shall remit 291 292 1.00 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General 293 Revenue Fund. 294 (b) For signing and sealing only 2.00, from which the clerk 295 shall remit 0.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into 296 the General Revenue Fund. 297 (19) For approving bond 8.50, from which the clerk shall 298 remit 1.00 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 299 General Revenue Fund. 300 (20) For searching of records, for each year's search 2.00, 301 from which the clerk shall remit 0.50 for each year's search to

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| 302 | the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue |
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| 303 | Fund. |
| 304 | (25) For sealing any court file or expungement of any |
| 305 | record 42.00, from which the clerk shall remit 4.50 to the |
| 306 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 307 | (26)(a) For receiving and disbursing all restitution |
| 308 | payments, per payment 3.50, from which the clerk shall remit |
| 309 | 0.50 per payment to the Department of Revenue for deposit into |
| 310 | the General Revenue Fund. |
| 311 | Section 7. Effective upon this act becoming a law and |
| 312 | retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (1) of section 28.2401, |
| 313 | Florida Statutes, is amended to read: |
| 314 | 28.2401 Service charges and filing fees in probate |
| 315 | matters |
| 316 | (1) Except when otherwise provided, the clerk may impose |
| 317 | service charges or filing fees for the following services or |
| 318 | filings, not to exceed the following amounts: |
| 319 | (a) Fee for the opening of any estate of one document or |
| 320 | more, including, but not limited to, petitions and orders to |
| 321 | approve settlement of minor's claims; to open a safe-deposit |
| 322 | box; to enter rooms and places; for the determination of heirs, |
| 323 | if not formal administration; and for a foreign guardian to |
| 324 | manage property of a nonresident; but not to include issuance of |
| 325 | letters or order of summary administration \$230 |
| 326 | (b) Charge for caveat \$40 |
| 327 | (c) Fee for petition and order to admit foreign wills, |
| 328 | authenticated copies, exemplified copies, or transcript to |
| 329 | record \$230 |
| 330 | (d) Fee for disposition of personal property without |

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| 331 | administration \$230 |
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| 332 | (e) Fee for summary administration—estates valued at \$1,000 |
| 333 | or more \$340 |
| 334 | (f) Fee for summary administration—estates valued at less |
| 335 | than \$1,000 \$230 |
| 336 | (g) Fee for formal administration, guardianship, ancillary, |
| 337 | curatorship, or conservatorship proceedings \$395 |
| 338 | (h) Fee for guardianship proceedings of person only \$230 |
| 339 | (i) Fee for veterans' guardianship pursuant to chapter 744 |
| 340 | \$230 |
| 341 | (j) Charge for exemplified certificates \$7 |
| 342 | (k) Fee for petition for determination of incompetency \$230 |
| 343 | |
| 344 | The clerk shall remit \$115 of each filing fee collected under |
| 345 | paragraphs (a), (c)-(i), and (k) to the Department of Revenue |
| 346 | for deposit into the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund and shall |
| 347 | remit \$15 of each filing fee collected under paragraphs (a), |
| 348 | (c), (d), (f), (h), (i) and (k), \$1 of each filing fee collected |
| 349 | under paragraph (j), \$5 of each filing fee collected under |
| 350 | paragraph (b), \$25 of each filing fee collected under paragraph |
| 351 | (e), and \$30 of each filing fee collected under paragraph (g) to |
| 352 | the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue |
| 353 | Fund. |
| 354 | Section 8. Effective upon this act becoming a law and |
| 355 | retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsections (1) and (2) of section |
| 356 | 28.241, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: |
| 357 | 28.241 Filing fees for trial and appellate proceedings |
| 358 | (1) Filing fees are due at the time a party files a |
| 359 | pleading to initiate a proceeding or files a pleading for |

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360 relief. Reopen fees are due at the time a party files a pleading 361 to reopen a proceeding if at least 90 days have elapsed since 362 the filing of a final order or final judgment with the clerk. If 363 a fee is not paid upon the filing of the pleading as required 364 under this section, the clerk shall pursue collection of the fee 365 pursuant to s. 28.246.

366 (a)1.a. Except as provided in sub-subparagraph b. and 367 subparagraph 2., the party instituting any civil action, suit, 368 or proceeding in the circuit court shall pay to the clerk of 369 that court a filing fee of up to \$395 in all cases in which 370 there are not more than five defendants and an additional filing 371 fee of up to \$2.50, from which the clerk shall remit \$0.50 to 372 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue 373 Fund, for each defendant in excess of five. Of the first \$200 in 374 filing fees, \$195 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue 375 for deposit into the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund, \$4 must be 376 remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 377 Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 378 Services and used to fund the contract with the Florida Clerks 379 of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must 380 be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 381 Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 382 Services to fund audits of individual clerks' court-related 383 expenditures conducted by the Department of Financial Services. 384 By the 10th of each month, the clerk shall submit that portion 385 of the filing fees collected in the previous month which is in 386 excess of one-twelfth of the clerk's total budget to the 387 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Clerks of the Court 388 Trust Fund.



389 b. The party instituting any civil action, suit, or 390 proceeding in the circuit court under chapter 39, chapter 61, 391 chapter 741, chapter 742, chapter 747, chapter 752, or chapter 392 753 shall pay to the clerk of that court a filing fee of up to 393 \$295 in all cases in which there are not more than five 394 defendants and an additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each 395 defendant in excess of five. Of the first \$100 in filing fees, 396 \$95 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit 397 into the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund, \$4 must be remitted to 398 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative 399 Trust Fund within the Department of Financial Services and used 400 to fund the contract with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations 401 Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must be remitted to the 402 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 403 Fund within the Department of Financial Services to fund audits 404 of individual clerks' court-related expenditures conducted by 405 the Department of Financial Services.

406 c. An additional filing fee of \$4 shall be paid to the clerk. The clerk shall remit \$3.50 to the Department of Revenue 407 408 for deposit into the Court Education Trust Fund and shall remit 409 50 cents to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 410 Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 411 Services to fund clerk education provided by the Florida Clerks 412 of Court Operations Corporation. An additional filing fee of up 413 to \$18 shall be paid by the party seeking each severance that is 414 granted, from which the clerk shall remit \$3 to the Department 415 of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. The clerk 416 may impose an additional filing fee of up to \$85, from which the clerk shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit 417

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418 into the General Revenue Fund, for all proceedings of garnishment, attachment, replevin, and distress. Postal charges 419 420 incurred by the clerk of the circuit court in making service by 421 certified or registered mail on defendants or other parties 422 shall be paid by the party at whose instance service is made. 423 Additional fees, charges, or costs may not be added to the filing fees imposed under this section, except as authorized in 424 425 this section or by general law.

426 2.a. Notwithstanding the fees prescribed in subparagraph
427 1., a party instituting a civil action in circuit court relating
428 to real property or mortgage foreclosure shall pay a graduated
429 filing fee based on the value of the claim.

430 b. A party shall estimate in writing the amount in 431 controversy of the claim upon filing the action. For purposes of 432 this subparagraph, the value of a mortgage foreclosure action is 433 based upon the principal due on the note secured by the 434 mortgage, plus interest owed on the note and any moneys advanced 435 by the lender for property taxes, insurance, and other advances 436 secured by the mortgage, at the time of filing the foreclosure. 437 The value shall also include the value of any tax certificates 438 related to the property. In stating the value of a mortgage 439 foreclosure claim, a party shall declare in writing the total value of the claim, as well as the individual elements of the 440 441 value as prescribed in this sub-subparagraph.

c. In its order providing for the final disposition of the
matter, the court shall identify the actual value of the claim.
The clerk shall adjust the filing fee if there is a difference
between the estimated amount in controversy and the actual value
of the claim and collect any additional filing fee owed or

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d. The party shall pay a filing fee of:

provide a refund of excess filing fee paid.

449 (I) Three hundred and ninety-five dollars in all cases in 450 which the value of the claim is \$50,000 or less and in which 451 there are not more than five defendants. The party shall pay an 452 additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each defendant in 453 excess of five. Of the first \$200 in filing fees, \$195 must be 454 remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, \$4 must be remitted to the 455 456 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 457 Fund within the Department of Financial Services and used to 458 fund the contract with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations 459 Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must be remitted to the 460 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 461 Fund within the Department of Financial Services to fund audits 462 of individual clerks' court-related expenditures conducted by 463 the Department of Financial Services;

464 (II) Nine hundred dollars in all cases in which the value 465 of the claim is more than \$50,000 but less than \$250,000 and in 466 which there are not more than five defendants. The party shall 467 pay an additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each defendant 468 in excess of five. Of the first \$705 in filing fees, \$700 must 469 be remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for 470 deposit into the General Revenue Fund, except that the first 471 \$1.5 million in such filing fees remitted to the Department of 472 Revenue and deposited into the General Revenue Fund in fiscal 473 year 2018-2019 shall be distributed to the Miami-Dade County 474 Clerk of Court; \$4 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund within the 475

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476 Department of Financial Services and used to fund the contract 477 with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation created 478 in s. 28.35; and \$1 must be remitted to the Department of 479 Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund within 480 the Department of Financial Services to fund audits of 481 individual clerks' court-related expenditures conducted by the 482 Department of Financial Services; or

(III) One thousand nine hundred dollars in all cases in 483 which the value of the claim is \$250,000 or more and in which 484 485 there are not more than five defendants. The party shall pay an 486 additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each defendant in 487 excess of five. Of the first \$1,705 in filing fees, \$930 must be 488 remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit 489 into the General Revenue Fund, \$770 must be remitted to the 490 Department of Revenue for deposit into the State Courts Revenue 491 Trust Fund, \$4 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for 492 deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund within the Department 493 of Financial Services to fund the contract with the Florida 494 Clerks of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 28.35, and 495 \$1 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit 496 into the Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of 497 Financial Services to fund audits of individual clerks' court-498 related expenditures conducted by the Department of Financial 499 Services.

e. An additional filing fee of \$4 shall be paid to the
clerk. The clerk shall remit \$3.50 to the Department of Revenue
for deposit into the Court Education Trust Fund and shall remit
50 cents to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the
Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial

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505 Services to fund clerk education provided by the Florida Clerks 506 of Court Operations Corporation. An additional filing fee of up 507 to \$18 shall be paid by the party seeking each severance that is 508 granted. The clerk may impose an additional filing fee of up to 509 \$85 for all proceedings of garnishment, attachment, replevin, 510 and distress. Postal charges incurred by the clerk of the 511 circuit court in making service by certified or registered mail 512 on defendants or other parties shall be paid by the party at whose instance service is made. Additional fees, charges, or 513 514 costs may not be added to the filing fees imposed under this 515 section, except as authorized in this section or by general law.

516 (b) A party reopening any civil action, suit, or proceeding 517 in the circuit court shall pay to the clerk of court a filing 518 fee set by the clerk in an amount not to exceed \$50. For 519 purposes of this section, a case is reopened after all appeals 520 have been exhausted or time to file an appeal from a final order 521 or final judgment has expired. A reopen fee may be assessed by 522 the clerk for any motion filed by any party at least 90 days 523 after a final order or final judgment has been filed with the 524 clerk in the initial case. A reservation of jurisdiction by a court does not cause a case to remain open for purposes of this section or exempt a party from paying a reopen fee. A party is exempt from paying the fee for any of the following:

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6. A motion for attorney's fees filed within 30 days after

5. A motion for rehearing filed within 10 days;

1. A writ of garnishment;

2. A writ of replevin;

4. A writ of attachment;

3. A distress writ;

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| 534 | entry of a judgment or final order; |
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| 535 | 7. A motion for dismissal filed after a mediation agreement |
| 536 | has been filed; |
| 537 | 8. A disposition of personal property without |
| 538 | administration; |
| 539 | 9. Any probate case prior to the discharge of a personal |
| 540 | representative; |
| 541 | 10. Any guardianship pleading prior to discharge; |
| 542 | 11. Any mental health pleading; |
| 543 | 12. Motions to withdraw by attorneys; |
| 544 | 13. Motions exclusively for the enforcement of child |
| 545 | support orders; |
| 546 | 14. A petition for credit of child support; |
| 547 | 15. A Notice of Intent to Relocate and any order issuing as |
| 548 | a result of an uncontested relocation; |
| 549 | 16. Stipulations and motions to enforce stipulations; |
| 550 | 17. Responsive pleadings; |
| 551 | 18. Cases in which there is no initial filing fee; or |
| 552 | 19. Motions for contempt. |
| 553 | (c)1. A party in addition to a party described in sub- |
| 554 | subparagraph (a)1.a. who files a pleading in an original civil |
| 555 | action in circuit court for affirmative relief by cross-claim, |
| 556 | counterclaim, counterpetition, or third-party complaint shall |
| 557 | pay the clerk of court a fee of \$395. A party in addition to a |
| 558 | party described in sub-subparagraph (a)1.b. who files a pleading |
| 559 | in an original civil action in circuit court for affirmative |
| 560 | relief by cross-claim, counterclaim, counterpetition, or third- |
| 561 | party complaint shall pay the clerk of court a fee of \$295. The |
| 562 | clerk shall deposit the fee into the fine and forfeiture fund |

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| 563 | established pursuant to s. 142.01. |
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| 564 | 2. A party in addition to a party described in subparagraph |
| 565 | (a)2. who files a pleading in an original civil action in |
| 566 | circuit court for affirmative relief by cross-claim, |
| 567 | counterclaim, counterpetition, or third-party complaint shall |
| 568 | pay the clerk of court a graduated fee of: |
| 569 | a. Three hundred and ninety-five dollars in all cases in |
| 570 | which the value of the pleading is \$50,000 or less; |
| 571 | b. Nine hundred dollars in all cases in which the value of |
| 572 | the pleading is more than \$50,000 but less than \$250,000; or |
| 573 | c. One thousand nine hundred dollars in all cases in which |
| 574 | the value of the pleading is \$250,000 or more. |
| 575 | |
| 576 | The clerk shall deposit the fees collected under this |
| 577 | subparagraph into the fine and forfeiture fund established |
| 578 | pursuant to s. 142.01. |
| 579 | (d) The clerk of court shall collect a service charge of |
| 580 | \$10 for issuing an original, a certified copy, or an electronic |
| 581 | certified copy of a summons, which the clerk shall remit to the |
| 582 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 583 | The clerk shall assess the fee against the party seeking to have |
| 584 | the summons issued. |
| 585 | (2) Upon the institution of any appellate proceeding from |
| 586 | any lower court to the circuit court of any such county, |
| 587 | including appeals filed by a county or municipality as provided |
| 588 | in s. 34.041(5), or from the circuit court to an appellate court |
| 589 | of the state, the clerk shall charge and collect from the party |
| 590 | or parties instituting such appellate proceedings a filing fee |
| 591 | not to exceed \$280, from which the clerk shall remit \$20 to the |

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| 592 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, |
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| 593 | for filing a notice of appeal from the county court to the |
| 594 | circuit court and, in addition to the filing fee required under |
| 595 | s. 25.241 or s. 35.22, \$100 for filing a notice of appeal from |
| 596 | the circuit court to the district court of appeal or to the |
| 597 | Supreme Court. If the party is determined to be indigent, the |
| 598 | clerk shall defer payment of the fee. |
| 599 | Section 9. Effective January 1, 2020, subsection (1) of |
| 600 | section 34.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: |
| 601 | 34.01 Jurisdiction of county court |
| 602 | (1) County courts shall have original jurisdiction: |
| 603 | (a) In all misdemeanor cases not cognizable by the circuit |
| 604 | courts <u>.</u> + |
| 605 | (b) Of all violations of municipal and county ordinances $_{. \dot{\tau}}$ |
| 606 | (c) Of all actions at law, except those within the |
| 607 | exclusive jurisdiction of the circuit courts, in which the |
| 608 | matter in controversy does not exceed the sum of \$15,000, |
| 609 | exclusive of interest, costs, and <u>attorney</u> attorney's fees:- |
| 610 | except those within the exclusive jurisdiction of the circuit |
| 611 | courts; and |
| 612 | 1. If filed on or before December 31, 2019, the sum of |
| 613 | \$15,000. |
| 614 | 2. If filed on or after January 1, 2020, the sum of |
| 615 | \$30,000. |
| 616 | 3. If filed on or after January 1, 2022, the sum of |
| 617 | \$50,000. |
| 618 | (d) Of disputes occurring in the homeowners' associations |
| 619 | as described in s. 720.311(2)(a), which shall be concurrent with |
| 620 | jurisdiction of the circuit courts. |
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622 By March 1, 2021, the Office of the State Courts Administrator 623 shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the 624 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The 625 report must make recommendations regarding the adjustment of 626 county court jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, 627 consideration of the claim value of filings in county court and circuit court, case events, timeliness in processing cases, and 628 629 any fiscal impact to the state as a result of adjusted 630 jurisdictional limits. The clerks of the circuit court and 631 county court shall provide claim value data and necessary case 632 event data to the office to be used in development of the 633 report. The report must also include a review of fees to ensure 634 that the court system is adequately funded and a review of the 635 appellate jurisdiction of the district courts and the circuit 636 courts.

637 Section 10. Effective upon this act becoming a law and 638 retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) 639 of subsection (1) of section 34.041, Florida Statutes, are 640 amended, and paragraph (e) is added to that subsection, to read: 641 34.041 Filing fees.-

642 (1) (a) Filing fees are due at the time a party files a 643 pleading to initiate a proceeding or files a pleading for 644 relief. Reopen fees are due at the time a party files a pleading 645 to reopen a proceeding if at least 90 days have elapsed since 646 the filing of a final order or final judgment with the clerk. If 647 a fee is not paid upon the filing of the pleading as required 648 under this section, the clerk shall pursue collection of the fee pursuant to s. 28.246. Upon the institution of any civil action, 649

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| 650 | anit or proceeding in county count the party shall pay the |
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| 650 | suit, or proceeding in county court, the party shall pay the |
| 651 | following filing fee, not to exceed: |
| 652 | 1. For all claims less than \$100\$50. |
| 653 | 2. For all claims of \$100 or more but not more than |
| 654 | \$500\$75. |
| 655 | 3. For all claims of more than \$500 but not more than |
| 656 | \$2,500\$170, from which the clerk shall remit \$20 to the |
| 657 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 658 | 4. For all claims of more than \$2,500 but not more than |
| 659 | <u>\$15,000</u> \$295. |
| 660 | 5. For all claims more than \$15,000\$395. |
| 661 | <u>6.5.</u> In addition, for all proceedings of garnishment, |
| 662 | attachment, replevin, and distress\$85, from which the clerk |
| 663 | shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into |
| 664 | the General Revenue Fund. |
| 665 | 7.6. Notwithstanding subparagraphs 3. and $6.5.$, for all |
| 666 | claims of not more than \$1,000 filed simultaneously with an |
| 667 | action for replevin of property that is the subject of the |
| 668 | claim\$125. |
| 669 | <u>8.</u> 7. For removal of tenant action |
| 670 | |
| 671 | The filing fee in subparagraph $\underline{7.}$ $\overline{6.}$ is the total fee due under |
| 672 | this paragraph for that type of filing, and no other filing fee |
| 673 | under this paragraph may be assessed against such a filing. |
| 674 | (b) The first \$15 of the filing fee collected under |
| 675 | subparagraph (a)4. and the first \$10 of the filing fee collected |
| 676 | under <u>subparagraph (a)8.</u> subparagraph (a)7. shall be deposited |
| 677 | in the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund. By the 10th day of each |
| 678 | month, the clerk shall submit that portion of the fees collected |
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679 in the previous month which is in excess of one-twelfth of the 680 clerk's total budget for the performance of court-related 681 functions to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 682 Clerks of the Court Trust Fund. An additional filing fee of \$4 683 shall be paid to the clerk. The clerk shall transfer \$3.50 to 684 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Court Education 685 Trust Fund and shall transfer 50 cents to the Department of 686 Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund within 687 the Department of Financial Services to fund clerk education 688 provided by the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation. 689 Postal charges incurred by the clerk of the county court in 690 making service by mail on defendants or other parties shall be 691 paid by the party at whose instance service is made. Except as 692 provided in this section, filing fees and service charges for 693 performing duties of the clerk relating to the county court 694 shall be as provided in ss. 28.24 and 28.241. Except as 695 otherwise provided in this section, all filing fees shall be 696 retained as fee income of the office of the clerk of the circuit 697 court. Filing fees imposed by this section may not be added to 698 any penalty imposed by chapter 316 or chapter 318.

699 (c) A party in addition to a party described in paragraph 700 (a) who files a pleading in an original civil action in the 701 county court for affirmative relief by cross-claim, 702 counterclaim, counterpetition, or third-party complaint, or who 703 files a notice of cross-appeal or notice of joinder or motion to 704 intervene as an appellant, cross-appellant, or petitioner, shall 705 pay the clerk of court a fee of \$295 if the relief sought by the 706 party under this paragraph exceeds \$2,500 but is not more than 707 \$15,000 and \$395 if the relief sought by the party under this

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708 paragraph exceeds \$15,000. The clerk shall remit the fee if the 709 relief sought by the party under this paragraph exceeds \$2,500 710 but is not more than \$15,000 to the Department of Revenue for 711 deposit into the General Revenue Fund. This fee does not apply 712 if the cross-claim, counterclaim, counterpetition, or third-713 party complaint requires transfer of the case from county to 714 circuit court. However, the party shall pay to the clerk the 715 standard filing fee for the court to which the case is to be 716 transferred.

(d) The clerk of court shall collect a service charge of 718 \$10 for issuing a summons or an electronic certified copy of a 719 summons, which the clerk shall remit to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. The clerk shall assess the fee against the party seeking to have the 722 summons issued.

723 (e) Of the first \$200 in filing fees payable under 724 subparagraph (a)5., \$195 must be remitted to the Department of 725 Revenue for deposit into the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund, \$4 726 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into 727 the Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 728 Services and used to fund the contract with the Florida Clerks 729 of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must 730 be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 731 Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 732 Services to fund audits of individual clerks' court-related 733 expenditures conducted by the Department of Financial Services. 734 By the 10th day of each month, the clerk shall submit that 735 portion of the filing fees collected pursuant to this subsection 736 in the previous month which is in excess of one-twelfth of the

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clerk's total budget to the Department of Revenue for deposit 737 738 into the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund. 739 Section 11. Effective January 1, 2020, section 44.108, 740 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 741 44.108 Funding of mediation and arbitration.-742 (1) Mediation and arbitration should be accessible to all 743 parties regardless of financial status. A filing fee of \$1 is 744 levied on all proceedings in the circuit or county courts to fund mediation and arbitration services which are the 745 746 responsibility of the Supreme Court pursuant to the provisions 747 of s. 44.106. However, the filing fee may not be levied upon an 748 appeal from the county court to the circuit court for a claim 749 that is greater than \$15,000. The clerk of the court shall 750 forward the moneys collected to the Department of Revenue for 751 deposit in the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund. 752 (2) When court-ordered mediation services are provided by a 753 circuit court's mediation program, the following fees, unless 754 otherwise established in the General Appropriations Act, shall 755 be collected by the clerk of court: 756 (a) One-hundred twenty dollars per person per scheduled 757 session in family mediation when the parties' combined income is 758 greater than \$50,000, but less than \$100,000 per year; 759 (b) Sixty dollars per person per scheduled session in 760 family mediation when the parties' combined income is less than 761 \$50,000; or 762 (c) Sixty dollars per person per scheduled session in 763 county court cases involving an amount in controversy not

exceeding \$15,000.

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766 No mediation fees shall be assessed under this subsection in 767 residential eviction cases, against a party found to be indigent, or for any small claims action. Fees collected by the 768 769 clerk of court pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the 770 Department of Revenue for deposit into the State Courts Revenue 771 Trust Fund to fund court-ordered mediation. The clerk of court 772 may deduct \$1 per fee assessment for processing this fee. The 773 clerk of the court shall submit to the chief judge of the 774 circuit and to the Office of the State Courts Administrator, no 775 later than 30 days after the end of each quarter of the fiscal 776 year, a report specifying the amount of funds collected and 777 remitted to the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund under this 778 section and any other section during the previous guarter of the 779 fiscal year. In addition to identifying the total aggregate 780 collections and remissions from all statutory sources, the 781 report must identify collections and remissions by each 782 statutory source.

Section 12. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (1) of section 45.035, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

45.035 Clerk's fees.-In addition to other fees or service charges authorized by law, the clerk shall receive service charges related to the judicial sales procedure set forth in ss. 45.031-45.034 and this section:

(1) The clerk shall receive a service charge of \$70, from which the clerk shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, for services in making, recording, and certifying the sale and title, which service charge shall be assessed as costs and shall be advanced by the

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795 plaintiff before the sale. 796 (2) If there is a surplus resulting from the sale, the 797 clerk may receive the following service charges, which shall be 798 deducted from the surplus: 799 (c) The clerk is entitled to a service charge of \$15 for 800 each disbursement of surplus proceeds, from which the clerk 801 shall remit \$5 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 802 General Revenue Fund. 803 Section 13. Effective upon this act becoming a law and 804 retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (3) of section 55.505, 805 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 806 55.505 Notice of recording; prerequisite to enforcement.-807 (3) No execution or other process for enforcement of a 808 foreign judgment recorded hereunder shall issue until 30 days 809 after the mailing of notice by the clerk and payment of a 810 service charge of up to \$42 to the clerk, from which the clerk shall remit \$4.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into 811 the General Revenue Fund. When an action authorized in s. 812 813 55.509(1) is filed, it acts as an automatic stay of the effect 814 of this section. 815 Section 14. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraphs (b), (d), (e), and (f) 816 817 of subsection (6) of section 61.14, Florida Statutes, are 818 amended to read: 819 61.14 Enforcement and modification of support, maintenance, 820 or alimony agreements or orders.-821 (6) 822 (b)1. When an obligor is 15 days delinquent in making a 823 payment or installment of support and the amount of the

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824 delinquency is greater than the periodic payment amount ordered 825 by the court, the local depository shall serve notice on the 826 obligor informing him or her of:

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a. The delinquency and its amount.

b. An impending judgment by operation of law against him or her in the amount of the delinquency and all other amounts which thereafter become due and are unpaid, together with costs and a service charge of up to \$25, from which the clerk shall remit \$17.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, for failure to pay the amount of the delinquency.

c. The obligor's right to contest the impending judgment and the ground upon which such contest can be made.

d. The local depository's authority to release information regarding the delinquency to one or more credit reporting agencies.

839 2. The local depository shall serve the notice by mailing 840 it by first class mail to the obligor at his or her last address 841 of record with the local depository. If the obligor has no 842 address of record with the local depository, service shall be by 843 publication as provided in chapter 49.

844 3. When service of the notice is made by mail, service is845 complete on the date of mailing.

(d) The court shall hear the obligor's motion to contest the impending judgment within 15 days after the date of filing of the motion. Upon the court's denial of the obligor's motion, the amount of the delinquency and all other amounts that become due, together with costs and a service charge of up to \$25, from which the clerk shall remit \$17.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, become a final

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853 judgment by operation of law against the obligor. The depository 854 shall charge interest at the rate established in s. 55.03 on all 855 judgments for support. Payments on judgments shall be applied 856 first to the current child support due, then to any delinquent 857 principal, and then to interest on the support judgment.

(e) If the obligor fails to file a motion to contest the 859 impending judgment within the time limit prescribed in paragraph (c) and fails to pay the amount of the delinquency and all other amounts which thereafter become due, together with costs and a service charge of up to \$25, from which the clerk shall remit 863 \$17.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, such amounts become a final judgment by operation of law against the obligor at the expiration of the time for filing a motion to contest the impending judgment.

(f)1. Upon request of any person, the local depository shall issue, upon payment of a service charge of up to \$25, from which the clerk shall remit \$17.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, a payoff statement of the total amount due under the judgment at the time of the request. The statement may be relied upon by the person for up to 30 days from the time it is issued unless proof of satisfaction of the judgment is provided.

875 2. When the depository records show that the obligor's 876 account is current, the depository shall record a satisfaction 877 of the judgment upon request of any interested person and upon 878 receipt of the appropriate recording fee. Any person shall be 879 entitled to rely upon the recording of the satisfaction.

880 3. The local depository, at the direction of the 881 department, or the obligee in a non-IV-D case, may partially

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| 882 | release the judgment as to specific real property, and the |
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| 883 | depository shall record a partial release upon receipt of the |
| 884 | appropriate recording fee. |
| 885 | 4. The local depository is not liable for errors in its |
| 886 | recordkeeping, except when an error is a result of unlawful |
| 887 | activity or gross negligence by the clerk or his or her |
| 888 | employees. |
| 889 | Section 15. Effective upon this act becoming a law and |
| 890 | retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsections (2) and (4) of section |
| 891 | 316.193, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: |
| 892 | 316.193 Driving under the influence; penalties |
| 893 | (2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), subsection (3), |
| 894 | or subsection (4), any person who is convicted of a violation of |
| 895 | subsection (1) shall be punished: |
| 896 | 1. By a fine of: |
| 897 | a. Not less than \$500 or more than \$1,000 for a first |
| 898 | conviction. |
| 899 | b. Not less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 for a second |
| 900 | conviction; and |
| 901 | 2. By imprisonment for: |
| 902 | a. Not more than 6 months for a first conviction. |
| 903 | b. Not more than 9 months for a second conviction. |
| 904 | 3. For a second conviction, by mandatory placement for a |
| 905 | period of at least 1 year, at the convicted person's sole |
| 906 | expense, of an ignition interlock device approved by the |
| 907 | department in accordance with s. 316.1938 upon all vehicles that |
| 908 | are individually or jointly leased or owned and routinely |
| 909 | operated by the convicted person, when the convicted person |
| 910 | qualifies for a permanent or restricted license. The |
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| 911 | installation of such device may not occur before July 1, 2003. |
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| 913 | The portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$500 pursuant to sub- |
| 914 | subparagraph 1.a. and the portion of a fine imposed in excess of |
| 915 | \$1,000 pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.b., shall be remitted by |
| 916 | the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the |
| 917 | General Revenue Fund. |
| 918 | (b)1. Any person who is convicted of a third violation of |
| 919 | this section for an offense that occurs within 10 years after a |
| 920 | prior conviction for a violation of this section commits a |
| 921 | felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. |
| 922 | 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. In addition, the court shall |
| 923 | order the mandatory placement for a period of not less than 2 |
| 924 | years, at the convicted person's sole expense, of an ignition |
| 925 | interlock device approved by the department in accordance with |
| 926 | s. 316.1938 upon all vehicles that are individually or jointly |
| 927 | leased or owned and routinely operated by the convicted person, |
| 928 | when the convicted person qualifies for a permanent or |
| 929 | restricted license. The installation of such device may not |
| 930 | occur before July 1, 2003. |
| 931 | 2. Any person who is convicted of a third violation of this |
| 932 | section for an offense that occurs more than 10 years after the |
| 933 | date of a prior conviction for a violation of this section shall |
| 934 | be punished by a fine of not less than \$2,000 or more than |
| 935 | \$5,000 and by imprisonment for not more than 12 months. <u>The</u> |
| 936 | portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$2,500 pursuant to this |
| 937 | subparagraph shall be remitted by the clerk to the Department of |
| 938 | Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. In addition, |
| 939 | the court shall order the mandatory placement for a period of at |

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940 least 2 years, at the convicted person's sole expense, of an 941 ignition interlock device approved by the department in 942 accordance with s. 316.1938 upon all vehicles that are 943 individually or jointly leased or owned and routinely operated 944 by the convicted person, when the convicted person qualifies for 945 a permanent or restricted license. The installation of such 946 device may not occur before July 1, 2003.

947 3. Any person who is convicted of a fourth or subsequent 948 violation of this section, regardless of when any prior 949 conviction for a violation of this section occurred, commits a 950 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 951 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. However, the fine imposed 952 for such fourth or subsequent violation may be not less than 953 \$2,000. The portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$1,000 954 pursuant to this subparagraph shall be remitted by the clerk to 955 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue 956 Fund.

957 (c) In addition to the penalties in paragraph (a), the 958 court may order placement, at the convicted person's sole 959 expense, of an ignition interlock device approved by the 960 department in accordance with s. 316.1938 for at least 6 961 continuous months upon all vehicles that are individually or 962 jointly leased or owned and routinely operated by the convicted 963 person if, at the time of the offense, the person had a blood-964 alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of .08 or higher.

965 (4) Any person who is convicted of a violation of 966 subsection (1) and who has a blood-alcohol level or breath-967 alcohol level of 0.15 or higher, or any person who is convicted 968 of a violation of subsection (1) and who at the time of the

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| 969 | offense was accompanied in the vehicle by a person under the age |
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| 970 | of 18 years, shall be punished: |
| 971 | (a) By a fine of: |
| 972 | 1. Not less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 for a first |
| 973 | conviction. |
| 974 | 2. Not less than \$2,000 or more than \$4,000 for a second |
| 975 | conviction. |
| 976 | 3. Not less than \$4,000 for a third or subsequent |
| 977 | conviction. |
| 978 | (b) By imprisonment for: |
| 979 | 1. Not more than 9 months for a first conviction. |
| 980 | 2. Not more than 12 months for a second conviction. |
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| 982 | For the purposes of this subsection, only the instant offense is |
| 983 | required to be a violation of subsection (1) by a person who has |
| 984 | a blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.15 or higher. |
| 985 | |
| 986 | The portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$1,000 pursuant to |
| 987 | sub-subparagraph (a)1. and the portion of a fine imposed in |
| 988 | excess of \$2,000 pursuant to sub-subparagraph (a)2. or (a)3, |
| 989 | shall be remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for |
| 990 | deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 991 | (c) In addition to the penalties in paragraphs (a) and (b), |
| 992 | the court shall order the mandatory placement, at the convicted |
| 993 | person's sole expense, of an ignition interlock device approved |
| 994 | by the department in accordance with s. 316.1938 upon all |
| 995 | vehicles that are individually or jointly leased or owned and |
| 996 | routinely operated by the convicted person for not less than 6 |
| 997 | continuous months for the first offense and for not less than 2 |
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998 continuous years for a second offense, when the convicted person 999 qualifies for a permanent or restricted license.

Section 16. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraph (b) of subsection (10) of section 318.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception; procedures.-

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1006 (b) Any person cited for an offense listed in this 1007 subsection shall present proof of compliance before the 1008 scheduled court appearance date. For the purposes of this 1009 subsection, proof of compliance shall consist of a valid, 1010 renewed, or reinstated driver license or registration 1011 certificate and proper proof of maintenance of security as 1012 required by s. 316.646. Notwithstanding waiver of fine, any 1013 person establishing proof of compliance shall be assessed court 1014 costs of \$25, except that a person charged with violation of s. 1015 316.646(1)-(3) may be assessed court costs of \$8. One dollar of 1016 such costs shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for 1017 deposit into the Child Welfare Training Trust Fund of the 1018 Department of Children and Families. One dollar of such costs 1019 shall be distributed to the Department of Juvenile Justice for 1020 deposit into the Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund. Fourteen dollars of such costs shall be distributed to the municipality, 1021 1022 \$1 shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit 1023 into the General Revenue Fund and \$ 8 ϑ shall be deposited by 1024 the clerk of the court into the fine and forfeiture fund 1025 established pursuant to s. 142.01, if the offense was committed within the municipality. If the offense was committed in an 1026
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1027 unincorporated area of a county or if the citation was for a 1028 violation of s. 316.646(1) - (3), the entire amount shall be deposited by the clerk of the court into the fine and forfeiture 1029 1030 fund established pursuant to s. 142.01, except for the moneys to 1031 be deposited into the Child Welfare Training Trust Fund and the 1032 Juvenile Justice Training Trust Fund and \$3 which the clerk 1033 shall remit to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 1034 General Revenue Fund. This subsection does not authorize the 1035 operation of a vehicle without a valid driver license, without a 1036 valid vehicle tag and registration, or without the maintenance 1037 of required security.

Section 17. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 318.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.15 Failure to comply with civil penalty or to appear; penalty.-

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1044 (b) However, a person who elects to attend driver 1045 improvement school and has paid the civil penalty as provided in 1046 s. 318.14(9) but who subsequently fails to attend the driver 1047 improvement school within the time specified by the court is deemed to have admitted the infraction and shall be adjudicated 1048 1049 guilty. If the person received a 9-percent reduction pursuant to 1050 s. 318.14(9), the person must pay the clerk of the court that 1051 amount and a processing fee of up to \$18, from which the clerk 1052 shall remit \$3 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 1053 General Revenue Fund, after which additional penalties, court costs, or surcharges may not be imposed for the violation. In 1054 1055 all other such cases, the person must pay the clerk a processing

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1056 fee of up to \$18, from which the clerk shall remit \$3 to the 1057 Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, 1058 after which additional penalties, court costs, or surcharges may 1059 not be imposed for the violation. The clerk of the court shall 1060 notify the department of the person's failure to attend driver 1061 improvement school and points shall be assessed pursuant to s. 1062 322.27.

Section 18. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2), subsection (11) and subsection (18) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

(2) Thirty dollars for all nonmoving traffic violations and:

(b) For all violations of ss. 320.0605, 320.07(1), 322.065, and 322.15(1). Any person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.07(1) shall be charged a delinquent fee pursuant to s. 320.07(4).

1076 1. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.0605 1077 or s. 320.07 can show proof of having a valid registration at 1078 the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case 1079 and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10, from which the 1080 clerk shall remit \$2.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit 1081 into the General Revenue Fund. A person who finds it impossible 1082 or impractical to obtain a valid registration certificate must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impossibility 1083 1084 or impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited

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1085 to, the fact that the vehicle was sold, stolen, or destroyed; 1086 that the state in which the vehicle is registered does not issue 1087 a certificate of registration; or that the vehicle is owned by 1088 another person.

2. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 322.03, s. 322.065, or s. 322.15 can show a driver license issued to him or her and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10, from which the clerk shall remit \$2.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

3. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 316.646 can show proof of security as required by s. 627.733, issued to the person and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10, from which the clerk shall remit \$2.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain proof of security must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle has since been sold, stolen, or destroyed; that the owner or registrant of the vehicle is not required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection insurance; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.

(c) For all violations of ss. 316.2935 and 316.610.
However, for a violation of s. 316.2935 or s. 316.610, if the
person committing the violation corrects the defect and obtains
proof of such timely repair by an affidavit of compliance
executed by the law enforcement agency within 30 days from the
date upon which the traffic citation was issued, and pays \$4 to

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| 1114 | the law enforcement agency, thereby completing the affidavit of |
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| 1115 | compliance, then upon presentation of said affidavit by the |
| 1116 | defendant to the clerk within the 30-day time period set forth |
| 1117 | under s. 318.14(4), the fine must be reduced to \$10, which the |
| 1118 | clerk of the court shall retain and from which the clerk shall |
| 1119 | remit \$2.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the |
| 1120 | General Revenue Fund. |
| 1121 | (11)(a) In addition to the stated fine, court costs must be |
| 1122 | paid in the following amounts and shall be deposited by the |
| 1123 | clerk into the fine and forfeiture fund established pursuant to |
| 1124 | s. 142.01 except as provided in this paragraph: |
| 1125 | For pedestrian infractions \$4, from which the clerk shall |
| 1126 | remit \$1 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the |
| 1127 | General Revenue Fund. |
| 1128 | For nonmoving traffic infractions \$18, from which the |
| 1129 | clerk shall remit \$2 to the Department of Revenue for deposit |
| 1130 | into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 1131 | For moving traffic infractions \$35, from which the clerk |
| 1132 | shall remit \$5 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the |
| 1133 | General Revenue Fund. |
| 1134 | (18) In addition to any penalties imposed, an |
| 1135 | administrative fee of \$12.50 must be paid for all noncriminal |
| 1136 | moving and nonmoving violations under chapters 316, 320, and |
| 1137 | 322. The clerk shall remit the administrative fee to the |
| 1138 | Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. |
| 1139 | Revenue from the administrative fee shall be deposited by the |
| 1140 | clerk of court into the fine and forfeiture fund established |
| 1141 | pursuant to s. 142.01. |
| 1142 | Section 19. Effective upon this act becoming a law and |
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1143 retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsections (1) and (2) of section 1144 322.245, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.245 Suspension of license upon failure of person charged with specified offense under chapter 316, chapter 320, or this chapter to comply with directives ordered by traffic court or upon failure to pay child support in non-IV-D cases as provided in chapter 61 or failure to pay any financial obligation in any other criminal case.-

1151 (1) If a person charged with a violation of any of the 1152 criminal offenses enumerated in s. 318.17 or with the commission 1153 of any offense constituting a misdemeanor under chapter 320 or 1154 this chapter fails to comply with all of the directives of the 1155 court within the time allotted by the court, the clerk of the 1156 traffic court shall mail to the person, at the address specified 1157 on the uniform traffic citation, a notice of such failure, 1158 notifying him or her that, if he or she does not comply with the 1159 directives of the court within 30 days after the date of the 1160 notice and pay a delinquency fee of up to \$25 to the clerk, from which the clerk shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for 1161 1162 deposit into the General Revenue Fund, his or her driver license 1163 will be suspended. The notice shall be mailed no later than 5 1164 days after such failure. The delinquency fee may be retained by 1165 the office of the clerk to defray the operating costs of the office. 1166

(2) In non-IV-D cases, if a person fails to pay child support under chapter 61 and the obligee so requests, the depository or the clerk of the court shall mail in accordance with s. 61.13016 the notice specified in that section, notifying him or her that if he or she does not comply with the

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| 1172 | requirements of that section and pay a delinquency fee of \$25 to |
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| 1173 | the depository or the clerk, his or her driver license and motor |
| 1174 | vehicle registration will be suspended. The delinquency fee may |
| 1175 | be retained by the depository or the office of the clerk to |
| 1176 | defray the operating costs of the office <u>after the clerk remits</u> |
| 1177 | \$15 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General |
| 1178 | Revenue Fund. |
| 1179 | Section 20. Effective upon this act becoming a law and |
| 1180 | retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsections (2) and (4) of section |
| 1181 | 327.35, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: |
| 1182 | 327.35 Boating under the influence; penalties; "designated |
| 1183 | drivers."- |
| 1184 | (2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), subsection (3), |
| 1185 | or subsection (4), any person who is convicted of a violation of |
| 1186 | subsection (1) shall be punished: |
| 1187 | 1. By a fine of: |
| 1188 | a. Not less than \$500 or more than \$1,000 for a first |
| 1189 | conviction. |
| 1190 | b. Not less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 for a second |
| 1191 | conviction; and |
| 1192 | 2. By imprisonment for: |
| 1193 | a. Not more than 6 months for a first conviction. |
| 1194 | b. Not more than 9 months for a second conviction. |
| 1195 | |
| 1196 | The portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$500 pursuant to sub- |
| 1197 | subparagraph 1.a. and the portion of a fine imposed in excess of |
| 1198 | \$1,000 pursuant to sub-subparagraph 1.b., shall be remitted by |
| 1199 | the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the |
| 1200 | General Revenue Fund. |
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(b)1. Any person who is convicted of a third violation of

1202 this section for an offense that occurs within 10 years after a 1203 prior conviction for a violation of this section commits a 1204 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 1205 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 1206 2. Any person who is convicted of a third violation of this 1207 section for an offense that occurs more than 10 years after the 1208 date of a prior conviction for a violation of this section shall 1209 be punished by a fine of not less than \$2,000 or more than 1210 \$5,000 and by imprisonment for not more than 12 months. The 1211 portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$2,500 pursuant to this 1212 subparagraph shall be remitted by the clerk to the Department of 1213 Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 1214 3. Any person who is convicted of a fourth or subsequent 1215 violation of this section, regardless of when any prior 1216 conviction for a violation of this section occurred, commits a 1217 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 1218 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 1219 1220 However, the fine imposed for such fourth or subsequent 1221 violation may not be less than \$2,000. The portion of such fine 1222 imposed in excess of \$1,000 shall be remitted by the clerk to 1223 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue 1224 Fund. 1225 (4) Any person who is convicted of a violation of 1226 subsection (1) and who has a blood-alcohol level or breath-1227 alcohol level of 0.15 or higher, or any person who is convicted 1228 of a violation of subsection (1) and who at the time of the

offense was accompanied in the vessel by a person under the age

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| 1230 | of 18 years, shall be punished: |
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| 1231 | (a) By a fine of: |
| 1232 | 1. Not less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 for a first |
| 1233 | conviction. |
| 1234 | 2. Not less than \$2,000 or more than \$4,000 for a second |
| 1235 | conviction. |
| 1236 | 3. Not less than \$4,000 for a third or subsequent |
| 1237 | conviction. |
| 1238 | (b) By imprisonment for: |
| 1239 | 1. Not more than 9 months for a first conviction. |
| 1240 | 2. Not more than 12 months for a second conviction. |
| 1241 | |
| 1242 | The portion of a fine imposed in excess of \$1,000 pursuant |
| 1243 | to paragraph (a)1. and the portion of a fine imposed in excess |
| 1244 | of \$2,000 pursuant to paragraph (a)2. or (a)3., shall be |
| 1245 | remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit |
| 1246 | into the General Revenue Fund. For the purposes of this |
| 1247 | subsection, only the instant offense is required to be a |
| 1248 | violation of subsection (1) by a person who has a blood-alcohol |
| 1249 | level or breath-alcohol level of 0.15 or higher. |
| 1250 | Section 21. Effective upon this act becoming a law and |
| 1251 | retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (4), paragraph (a) of |
| 1252 | subsection (9), and paragraph (a) of subsection (11) of section |
| 1253 | 327.73, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: |
| 1254 | 327.73 Noncriminal infractions |
| 1255 | (4) Any person charged with a noncriminal infraction under |
| 1256 | this section may: |
| 1257 | (a) Pay the civil penalty, either by mail or in person, |
| 1258 | within 30 days of the date of receiving the citation; or, |
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(b) If he or she has posted bond, forfeit bond by not appearing at the designated time and location.

If the person cited follows either of the above procedures, he or she shall be deemed to have admitted the noncriminal infraction and to have waived the right to a hearing on the issue of commission of the infraction. Such admission shall not be used as evidence in any other proceedings. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 327.395 can show a boating safety identification card issued to that person and valid at the time of the citation, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a dismissal fee of up to \$10, from which the clerk shall remit \$2.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 328.72(13) can show proof of having a registration for that vessel which was valid at the time of the citation, the clerk may dismiss the case and may assess the dismissal fee, from which the clerk shall remit \$2.50 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

(9) (a) Any person who fails to comply with the court's requirements or who fails to pay the civil penalties specified in this section within the 30-day period provided for in s. 327.72 must pay an additional court cost of up to \$20, which shall be used by the clerks of the courts to defray the costs of tracking unpaid uniform boating citations, from which the clerk shall remit \$2 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

1286 (11)(a) Court costs that are to be in addition to the 1287 stated civil penalty shall be imposed by the court in an amount

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| 1288not less than the following:12891. For swimming or diving infractions, \$4, from1290clerk shall remit \$1 to the Department of Revenue for1291into the General Revenue Fund.12922. For nonmoving boating infractions, \$18, from | for deposit om which the |
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| 1290 <u>clerk shall remit \$1 to the Department of Revenue 1</u> 1291 <u>into the General Revenue Fund</u> . | for deposit om which the |
| 1291 <u>into the General Revenue Fund</u> . | om which the |
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| 1292 2. For nonmoving boating infractions, \$18, fro | |
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| 1293 <u>clerk shall remit \$12 to the Department of Revenue</u> | ior deposit |
| 1294 into the General Revenue Fund. | |
| 1295 3. For boating infractions listed in s. 327.73 | 31(1), \$35 <u>,</u> |
| 1296 from which the clerk shall remit \$25 to the Department | nent of |
| 1297 <u>Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund</u> . | |
| 1298 | |
| Court costs imposed under this subsection may | not exceed |
| 1300 \$45. A criminal justice selection center or both lo | ocal criminal |
| 1301 justice access and assessment centers may be funded | d from these |
| 1302 court costs. | |
| 1303 Section 22. Effective upon this act becoming a | a law and |
| 1304 retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraph (i) of subse | ection (1) of |
| 1305 section 379.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to re | ead: |
| 1306 379.401 Penalties and violations; civil penalt | ties for |
| 1307 noncriminal infractions; criminal penalties; susper | nsion and |
| 1308 forfeiture of licenses and permits | |
| 1309 (1) LEVEL ONE VIOLATIONS | |
| (i) A person cited for violating the requireme | ents of s. |
| 1311 379.354 relating to personal possession of a licens | se or permit |
| 1312 may not be convicted if, before or at the time of a | a county court |
| 1313 hearing, the person produces the required license of | or permit for |
| 1314 verification by the hearing officer or the court cl | lerk. The |
| 1315 license or permit must have been valid at the time | the person |
| 1316 was cited. The clerk or hearing officer may assess | a \$10 fee for |
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1317 costs under this paragraph, from which the clerk shall remit \$5
1318 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General
1319 Revenue Fund.

Section 23. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 713.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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713.24 Transfer of liens to security.-

(1) Any lien claimed under this part may be transferred, by any person having an interest in the real property upon which the lien is imposed or the contract under which the lien is claimed, from such real property to other security by either:

(b) Filing in the clerk's office a bond executed as surety by a surety insurer licensed to do business in this state,

1331 either to be in an amount equal to the amount demanded in 1332 such claim of lien, plus interest thereon at the legal rate for 1333 3 years, plus \$1,000 or 25 percent of the amount demanded in the 1334 claim of lien, whichever is greater, to apply on any attorney's 1335 fees and court costs that may be taxed in any proceeding to 1336 enforce said lien. Such deposit or bond shall be conditioned to 1337 pay any judgment or decree which may be rendered for the 1338 satisfaction of the lien for which such claim of lien was 1339 recorded. Upon making such deposit or filing such bond, the 1340 clerk shall make and record a certificate showing the transfer 1341 of the lien from the real property to the security and shall 1342 mail a copy thereof by registered or certified mail to the 1343 lienor named in the claim of lien so transferred, at the address stated therein. Upon filing the certificate of transfer, the 1344 1345 real property shall thereupon be released from the lien claimed,

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1346 and such lien shall be transferred to said security. In the absence of allegations of privity between the lienor and the 1347 1348 owner, and subject to any order of the court increasing the 1349 amount required for the lien transfer deposit or bond, no other 1350 judgment or decree to pay money may be entered by the court 1351 against the owner. The clerk shall be entitled to a service 1352 charge for making and serving the certificate, in the amount of 1353 up to \$20, from which the clerk shall remit \$5 to the Department 1354 of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. If the 1355 transaction involves the transfer of multiple liens, an 1356 additional charge of up to \$10 for each additional lien shall be 1357 charged, from which the clerk shall remit \$2.50 to the 1358 Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 1359 For recording the certificate and approving the bond, the clerk 1360 shall receive her or his usual statutory service charges as 1361 prescribed in s. 28.24. Any number of liens may be transferred 1362 to one such security.

Section 24. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (3) of section 721.83, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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721.83 Consolidation of judicial foreclosure actions.-

(3) A consolidated timeshare foreclosure action shall be considered a single action, suit, or proceeding for the payment of filing fees and service charges pursuant to general law. In addition to the payment of such filing fees and service charges, an additional filing fee of up to \$10 from which the clerk shall remit \$5 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund for each timeshare interest joined in that 1374 action shall be paid to the clerk of court.

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1375Section 25. Effective upon this act becoming a law and1376retroactive to July 1, 2008, paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of1377section 744.365, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

744.365 Verified inventory.-

(6) AUDIT FEE.—

1380 (a) Where the value of the ward's property exceeds \$25,000, 1381 a quardian shall pay from the ward's property to the clerk of 1382 the circuit court a fee of up to \$85 from which the clerk shall 1383 remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 1384 General Revenue Fund, upon the filing of the verified inventory, 1385 for the auditing of the inventory. Upon petition by the 1386 guardian, the court may waive the auditing fee upon a showing of 1387 insufficient funds in the ward's estate. Any guardian unable to 1388 pay the auditing fee may petition the court for waiver of the 1389 fee. The court may waive the fee after it has reviewed the 1390 documentation filed by the quardian in support of the waiver.

Section 26. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, sSubsection (4) of section 744.3678, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

744.3678 Annual accounting.-

(4) The guardian shall pay from the ward's estate to the clerk of the circuit court a fee based upon the following graduated fee schedule, upon the filing of the annual financial return, for the auditing of the return:

(a) For estates with a value of \$25,000 or less the clerk of the court may charge a fee of up to \$20 <u>from which the clerk</u> <u>shall remit \$5 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the</u> <u>General Revenue Fund</u>.

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(b) For estates with a value of more than \$25,000 up to and

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1404 including \$100,000 the clerk of the court may charge a fee of up 1405 to \$85 from which the clerk shall remit \$10 to the Department of 1406 Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

(c) For estates with a value of more than \$100,000 up to and including \$500,000 the clerk of the court may charge a fee of up to \$170 from which the clerk shall remit \$20 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

(d) For estates with a value in excess of \$500,000 the clerk of the court may charge a fee of up to \$250 <u>from which the clerk shall remit \$25 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund</u>.

Upon petition by the guardian, the court may waive the auditing fee upon a showing of insufficient funds in the ward's estate. Any guardian unable to pay the auditing fee may petition the court for a waiver of the fee. The court may waive the fee after it has reviewed the documentation filed by the guardian in support of the waiver.

Section 27. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (2) of section 766.104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1425 766.104 Medical negligence cases; reasonable investigation 1426 required before filing.-

(2) Upon petition to the clerk of the court where the suit
will be filed and payment to the clerk of a filing fee, not to
exceed \$42 from which the clerk shall remit \$4.50 to the
Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund,
an automatic 90-day extension of the statute of limitations
shall be granted to allow the reasonable investigation required

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1433 by subsection (1). This period shall be in addition to other tolling periods. No court order is required for the extension to 1434 be effective. The provisions of this subsection shall not be 1435 deemed to revive a cause of action on which the statute of 1436 1437 limitations has run.

Section 28. Effective upon this act becoming a law and retroactive to July 1, 2008, subsection (1) of section 938.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

938.05 Additional court costs for felonies, misdemeanors, and criminal traffic offenses.-

1443 (1) Any person pleading nolo contendere to a misdemeanor or 1444 criminal traffic offense under s. 318.14(10)(a) or pleading guilty or nolo contendere to, or being found guilty of, any 1446 felony, misdemeanor, or criminal traffic offense under the laws of this state or the violation of any municipal or county ordinance which adopts by reference any misdemeanor under state 1449 law, shall pay as a cost in the case, in addition to any other 1450 cost required to be imposed by law, a sum in accordance with the 1451 following schedule:

1452 (a) Felonies \$225 from which the clerk shall remit \$25 to 1453 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue 1454 Fund

(b) Misdemeanors \$60 from which the clerk shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund

(c) Criminal traffic offenses \$60 from which the clerk 1458 1459 shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into 1460 the General Revenue Fund 1461 Section 29. The amendments made by this act to ss. 27.52,

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| 1462 | 28.24, 28.2401, 28.241, 34.041, 45.035, 55.505, 61.14, 316.193, |
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| 1463 | <u>318.14, 318.15, 318.18, 322.245, 327.35, 327.73, 379.401,</u> |
| 1464 | 713.24, 721.83, 744.365, 744.3678, 766.104, and 938.05, Florida |
| 1465 | Statutes, are remedial and clarifying in nature and apply |
| 1466 | retroactively to July 1, 2008. |
| 1467 | Section 30. The amendments to the jurisdiction of a court |
| 1468 | made by this act shall apply with respect to the date of filing |
| 1469 | the cause of action, regardless of when the cause of action |
| 1470 | accrued. |
| 1471 | Section 31. Before the 2022 Regular Session of the |
| 1472 | Legislature, the Legislature shall review and consider the |
| 1473 | results of the analysis submitted pursuant to Specific |
| 1474 | Appropriation 2754 of the 2019-2020 General Appropriations Act |
| 1475 | regarding the review of the Clerk of Court Processes for the |
| 1476 | purpose of considering the extension or reenactment of |
| 1477 | provisions in this act relating to clerk funding. |
| 1478 | Section 32. Except as otherwise provided, and except for |
| 1479 | this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this |
| 1480 | act shall take effect July 1, 2019. |
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| 1482 | ========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ================================= |
| 1483 | And the title is amended as follows: |
| 1484 | Delete everything before the enacting clause |
| 1485 | and insert: |
| 1486 | A bill to be entitled |
| 1487 | An act relating to courts; amending s. 28.241, F.S.; |
| 1488 | requiring specified filing fees for appeals from |
| 1489 | certain county courts; amending s. 28.35, F.S.; |
| 1490 | modifying calculation of total combined budgets of the |
| | |



1491 clerks of the court; providing a definition; amending 1492 s. 28.36, F.S.; providing for modified revenue 1493 projection relating to proposed budget of clerks of 1494 the court; providing a definition; amending s. 28.37, 1495 F.S.; providing for deposit of certain funds into 1496 specified trust funds or General Revenue Fund; 1497 amending s. 27.52, F.S.; providing for deposit of 1498 certain fees into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 1499 28.24, F.S.; providing for deposit of certain fees 1500 into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 28.2401, F.S.; 1501 providing for deposit of certain fees into General 1502 Revenue Fund; amending s. 28.241, F.S.; providing for 1503 deposit of certain fees into General Revenue Fund; 1504 amending s. 34.01, F.S.; increasing the jurisdictional 1505 limit for actions at law by county courts on specified 1506 dates; requiring the State Courts Administrator to 1507 submit a report containing certain recommendations and 1508 reviews to the Governor and the Legislature by a 1509 specified date; amending s. 34.041, F.S.; providing 1510 for deposit of certain fees into the General Revenue 1511 Fund; providing county court civil filing fees for 1512 claims of specified values; providing for distribution 1513 of the fees; amending s. 44.108, F.S.; prohibiting the levy of certain fees for mediation and arbitration 1514 1515 services in certain cases; amending s. 45.035, F.S.; 1516 providing for deposit of certain fees into General 1517 Revenue Fund; amending s. 55.505, F.S.; providing for deposit of certain fees into General Revenue Fund; 1518 amending s. 61.14, F.S.; providing for deposit of 1519

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1520 certain fees into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 1521 316.193, F.S., providing for deposit of certain fees 1522 into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 318.14, F.S., 1523 providing for deposit of certain fees into General 1524 Revenue Fund; amending s. 318.15, F.S.; providing for 1525 deposit of certain fees into General Revenue Fund; 1526 amending s. 318.18, F.S.; providing for deposit of 1527 certain fees into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 1528 322.245, F.S.; providing for deposit of certain fees 1529 into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 327.35, F.S.; 1530 providing for deposit of certain fees into General 1531 Revenue Fund; amending s. 327.73, F.S.; providing for 1532 deposit of certain fees into General Revenue Fund; 1533 amending s. 379.401, F.S.; providing for deposit of 1534 certain fees into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 1535 713.24, F.S.; providing for deposit of certain fees 1536 into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 721.83, F.S.; 1537 providing for deposit of certain fees into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 744.365, F.S.; providing for 1538 1539 deposit of certain fees into General Revenue Fund; 1540 amending s. 744.3678, F.S.; providing for deposit of 1541 certain fees into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 1542 766.104, F.S.; providing for deposit of certain fees 1543 into General Revenue Fund; amending s. 938.05, F.S.; 1544 providing for deposit of certain fees into General 1545 Revenue Fund; providing for retroactivity; providing 1546 applicability; requiring a certain Legislative review; 1547 providing effective dates.