

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to clerks of the court; amending s.  
 3           40.29, F.S.; deleting a requirement that the Justice  
 4           Administrative Commission provide funds to the clerks  
 5           of the court to compensate jurors and pay for certain  
 6           expenses and certain jury-related personnel costs;  
 7           amending s. 213.131, F.S.; providing the purpose of  
 8           the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund within the  
 9           Department of Revenue; requiring the distribution of  
 10          certain funds to cover projected revenue deficits;  
 11          requiring the department to deposit certain funds into  
 12          the trust fund for purposes of compensating jurors and  
 13          paying certain expenses and certain jury-related  
 14          personnel costs; providing requirements relating to  
 15          such reimbursement; specifying that the clerks of the  
 16          court are responsible for any such costs that exceed  
 17          the amount appropriated by the Legislature; providing  
 18          an effective date.

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

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 22           Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 40.29, Florida  
 23 Statutes, is amended to read:

24           40.29 Payment of due-process costs.—

25           ~~(5) The Justice Administrative Commission shall provide~~

26 ~~funds to the clerks of the court to compensate jurors, to pay~~  
27 ~~for meals or lodging provided to jurors, and to pay for jury-~~  
28 ~~related personnel costs as provided in this section. Each clerk~~  
29 ~~of the court shall forward to the Justice Administrative~~  
30 ~~Commission a quarterly estimate of funds necessary to compensate~~  
31 ~~jurors and pay for meals or lodging provided to jurors during~~  
32 ~~the upcoming quarter. The Florida Clerks of Court Operations~~  
33 ~~Corporation shall forward to the Justice Administrative~~  
34 ~~Commission a quarterly estimate of the amount necessary to~~  
35 ~~reimburse each clerk of the court for its personnel and other~~  
36 ~~costs related to jury management. Upon receipt of such~~  
37 ~~estimates, the Justice Administrative Commission shall determine~~  
38 ~~the amount deemed necessary for payment to the clerks of the~~  
39 ~~court during the upcoming quarter and submit a request for~~  
40 ~~payment to the Chief Financial Officer. If the Justice~~  
41 ~~Administrative Commission believes that the amount appropriated~~  
42 ~~by the Legislature is insufficient to meet such costs during the~~  
43 ~~remaining part of the state fiscal year, the commission may~~  
44 ~~apportion the funds appropriated in the General Appropriations~~  
45 ~~Act for those purposes among the several counties, basing the~~  
46 ~~apportionment upon the amount expended for such purposes in each~~  
47 ~~county during the prior fiscal year, in which case, the Chief~~  
48 ~~Financial Officer shall issue the appropriate apportioned amount~~  
49 ~~by warrant to each county. The clerks of the court are~~  
50 ~~responsible for any compensation to jurors, for payments for~~

51 ~~meals or lodging provided to jurors, and for jury-related~~  
52 ~~personnel costs that exceed the funding provided in the General~~  
53 ~~Appropriations Act for these purposes.~~

54 Section 2. Section 213.131, Florida Statutes, is amended  
55 to read:

56 213.131 Clerks of the Court Trust Fund within the  
57 Department of Revenue.—

58 (1) The Clerks of the Court Trust Fund is created within  
59 the Department of Revenue.

60 (2) The trust fund is established as a depository for the  
61 portion of all fines, fees, service charges, and costs collected  
62 monthly by each clerk of the court which is in excess of one-  
63 twelfth of that clerk's total budget. Other funds that may be  
64 deposited in the trust fund include revenues designated for that  
65 purpose by law, funds appropriated by the Legislature, and  
66 grants from public or private entities.

67 (3) Funds collected and deposited into the trust fund  
68 monthly that exceed one-twelfth of each clerk's total budget  
69 shall only be used to provide funds to clerks of the court with  
70 projected revenue deficits.

71 (4) The Department of Revenue shall deposit into the trust  
72 fund funds appropriated to the clerks of the court in the  
73 General Appropriations Act to compensate jurors, pay for meals  
74 and lodging to jurors, and pay for jury-related personnel and  
75 operational costs as provided in that act. Each clerk of the

76 | court shall submit a reimbursement request to the Florida Clerks  
77 | of Court Operations Corporation within 30 days after each  
78 | quarter attesting to the clerk's actual costs to compensate  
79 | jurors, pay for meals and lodging to jurors, and pay for jury-  
80 | related personnel and operational costs. The Florida Clerks of  
81 | Court Operations Corporation shall review the request for  
82 | reimbursement to determine whether the costs are reasonable and  
83 | directly related to jury management and shall forward to the  
84 | Department of Revenue the amount necessary to reimburse each  
85 | clerk of the court. The clerks of the court are responsible for  
86 | any compensation to jurors, for payments for meals or lodging  
87 | provided to jurors, and for jury-related personnel and  
88 | operational costs that exceed the funding provided in the  
89 | General Appropriations Act for these purposes.

90 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.