

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

As Engrossed: H2/18/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1178

5 By: Representative R. Scott Richardson
6 By: Senator D. Wallace
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS; TO
10 AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING SUMS COLLECTED BY DISTRICT
11 COURTS; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING COST SHARING FOR
12 DISTRICT COURT EXPENSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 CONCERNING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE
16 VIOLATIONS; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING
17 SUMS COLLECTED BY DISTRICT COURTS; AND
18 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING COST SHARING
19 FOR DISTRICT COURT EXPENSES.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 *SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative intent.*

25 *The General Assembly intends this act to:*

26 *(1) Clarify the law concerning the collection and distribution*
27 *of sums collected by a district court; and*

28 *(2) Provide a mechanism for cities and incorporated towns that*
29 *do not operate a district court and do not have a police department to*
30 *receive the appropriate distribution of sums collected by the district court*
31 *to ensure remediation.*
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33 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-17-707(a) and (b), concerning the*
34 *separate accounting records for all sums collected by the district court, is*
35 *amended to read as follows:*

36 (a) The district court clerk shall keep three (3) separate accounting



1 records of all fines, penalties, forfeitures, fees, and costs received by him
2 or her for any of the officers of ~~the~~ a town, city, or county, as provided in
3 this subchapter:

4 (1) The first class of accounting records shall embrace all sums
5 collected in the district court in all nontraffic cases which are
6 misdemeanors or violations of the ~~town or city~~ ordinances of a town or city
7 in the district and all cases which are misdemeanors or violations under
8 state law or traffic offenses which are misdemeanors or violations under
9 state law or town or city ordinance committed within the corporate limits of
10 the town or city where the court sits, where the arresting officer was a
11 police officer or other officer of the town or city, a Division of Arkansas
12 State Police officer or other certified law enforcement officer of the state,
13 or an officer of a private or public college or university located within the
14 corporate limits of the town or city where the court sits;

15 (2) The second class of accounting records shall embrace all
16 sums collected in the district court in all nontraffic cases which are
17 misdemeanors or violations of county ordinances or are misdemeanors or
18 violations of any of the laws of the state where the arresting officer was
19 the county sheriff or a deputy sheriff or was not a police officer or other
20 officer of the town or city where the court sits, and the offense was
21 committed outside the corporate limits of the town or city where the court
22 sits, and in all other criminal or traffic proceedings not specifically
23 enumerated in this section; and

24 (3)(A) The third class of accounting records shall embrace all
25 sums collected in the district court in all civil and small claims cases.

26 (B) The uniform filing fee collected under § 16-17-705
27 shall be remitted to the city administration of justice fund.

28 (C) The uniform court costs collected under § 16-10-305
29 shall be remitted to the city administration of justice fund.

30 (D) All other fees and interest earned on the court
31 account shall be disbursed to the treasurers of the political subdivisions
32 which contribute to the expense of the district court in accordance with a
33 written agreement among the political subdivisions.

34 (b)(1)(A) After deducting the fees due the police department and
35 marshal's office and sheriff's office, the district court shall pay into ~~the~~
36 each town or city treasury all sums collected from the first class of

1 accounting records for that town or city.

2 (B) The district court shall pay all sums collected from
3 the second class of accounting records into the county treasury.

4 (2) Any district court that is funded solely by the county shall
5 pay all sums collected from the first or second class of accounting records
6 into the county treasury and shall pay all uniform filing fees and court
7 costs collected into the county administration of justice fund.

8 (3) A town or city that ~~has a police department and~~ does not
9 operate a district court shall receive only the prorated sums collected as
10 provided in § 16-17-1203.

11 (4) Direct monetary settlements shall be made with state
12 entities or agencies as provided by law.

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14 *SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 16-17-1203(a)(1), concerning the procedure*
15 *for cost sharing for the expenses of a district court, is amended to read as*
16 *follows:*

17 (a)(1)(A) Any town or city that ~~has a police department but~~ does not
18 have a district court may contribute to the operational expenses of the
19 nearest district court in the county where the town or city is located
20 pursuant to a written agreement.

21 (B) A written agreement is mandatory and is to be entered
22 into between the governing body of the town or city where the district court
23 sits and the governing bodies of the political subdivisions that contribute
24 to the operational expenses of the district court.

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26 /s/R. Scott Richardson

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