

"AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE QUORUM COURT OF ANY COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF 65,000 INHABITANTS OR MORE ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS, BY APPROPRIATE COUNTY LEGISLATION, TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION OF A FUND TO BE USED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PAYING REASONABLE AND NECESSARY COSTS INCURRED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF COURT PERSONNEL, AND EQUIPMENT, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE QUORUM COURT OF ANY COUNTY HAVING A POPULATION OF 65,000 INHABITANTS OR MORE ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF A REASONABLE FEE, TO BE TAXED AS COSTS IN EACH MATTER, CIVIL OR CRIMINAL, FILED IN ANY CIRCUIT, CHANCERY, OR PROBATE COURT TO ESTABLISH SUCH FUND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. (a) The quorum court of any county having a population of 65,000 inhabitants or more according to the most recent federal decennial census, by appropriate county legislation, may provide for the creation of a fund to be used for the sole purpose of paying reasonable and necessary costs incurred in the establishment and maintenance of court personnel, and equipment, in addition to any funds presently existing for the establishment and maintenance of court personnel, and equipment.

(b) Any quorum court of a county having a population of 65,000 inhabitants or more according to the most recent federal decennial census desiring to establish such a fund shall have the authority to provide for the payment of a reasonable fee, to be taxed as costs in each matter, civil or criminal, filed in any circuit, chancery, probate, within the county, in addition to any fees or costs presently taxed in circuit, chancery, or probate courts, but not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of those fees presently taxed as costs.

(c) Expenditures from the fund shall be made in the manner and amounts prescribed by the quorum court desiring to enact such legislation.

SECTION 2. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the funds available to counties to provide much needed additional court personnel, and equipment are inadequate. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: 2/19/88

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