

"AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 1 OF ACT 11 OF 1981, AS AMENDED, TO INCREASE THE FEE TO BE LEVIED AND COLLECTED IN CRIMINAL CASES IN COUNTIES HAVING A POPULATION OF NOT LESS THAN 58,000 NOR MORE THAN 65,000 ACCORDING TO THE 1980 DECENNIAL FEDERAL CENSUS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Act 11 of 1981, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. In addition to the other costs now or as may hereafter be provided by law, there shall be levied and collected in all counties of this State that have a population of not less than 58,000 nor more than 65,000, according to the 1980 Decennial Federal Census, as costs:

From each defendant, upon each judgment or conviction, plea of guilty or nolo contendere or forfeiture for failure to appear in felony or misdemeanor cases, in the Mayors' Courts, Municipal Courts, and in the Circuit Courts of and within such counties, a sum not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00).

These funds shall be paid into the general fund of the county and shall be used to fund the operation of the Criminal Justice System for such counties."

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 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.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 necessity exists in the counties covered by the provisions of this Act to provide funds for the Public Defender System and other necessary expenses for the defense of indigents charged with or under investigation of crimes; that the costs of the Public Defender System should be borne in part by those who necessitate the establishment and maintenance of the Criminal Justice System; that necessary funds are not now available to be appropriated for such purposes and an immediate necessity exists for payment of the expenses of the Public Defender System of such counties to assure an orderly handling of cases in which indigent defendants are charged with or under investigation for serious crimes and are not financially able to pay for representation; and that this Act is immediately necessary to assure the effect and efficient administration of justice in the counties in which it is applicable. 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: 3/19/87
