

CHAPTER 171

APPROPRIATIONS — JUDICIAL BRANCH

H.F. 807

AN ACT relating to and making appropriations to the judicial branch, and providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section 1. JUDICIAL BRANCH.

1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the judicial branch for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2006, the following amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

a. For salaries of supreme court justices, appellate court judges, district court judges, district associate judges, judicial magistrates and staff, state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, district court administrators, clerks of the district court, juvenile court officers, board of law examiners and board of examiners of shorthand reporters and judicial qualifications commission, receipt and disbursement of child support payments, reimbursement of the auditor of state for expenses incurred in completing audits of the offices of the clerks of the district court during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, and maintenance, equipment, and miscellaneous purposes:

..... \$ 118,404,282¹

b. For an initial grant to be determined by the state court administrator, for the establishment of a youth enrichment pilot project² located in a county with a population greater than three hundred thousand that is involved in a public and private partnership pursuing life skills, education, and mentoring programs for offenders between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two who have been charged with a felony:

..... \$ 100,000

2. The judicial branch, except for purposes of internal processing, shall use the current state budget system, the state payroll system, and the Iowa finance and accounting system in administration of programs and payments for services, and shall not duplicate the state payroll, accounting, and budgeting systems.

3. The judicial branch shall submit monthly financial statements to the legislative services agency and the department of management containing all appropriated accounts in the same manner as provided in the monthly financial status reports and personal services usage reports of the department of administrative services. The monthly financial statements shall include a comparison of the dollars and percentage spent of budgeted versus actual revenues and expenditures on a cumulative basis for full-time equivalent positions and dollars.

4. The judicial branch shall focus efforts upon the collection of delinquent fines, penalties, court costs, fees, surcharges, or similar amounts.

5. It is the intent of the general assembly that the offices of the clerks of the district court operate in all ninety-nine counties and be accessible to the public as much as is reasonably possible in order to address the relative needs of the citizens of each county.

6. The judicial branch shall study the best practices and efficiencies of each judicial district. In identifying the most efficient judicial districts and the districts using best practices, the judicial branch shall consider the average cost to the judicial branch for processing each classification of criminal offense or civil action and the overall number of cases filed. The judicial branch shall file a report regarding the study made and actions taken pursuant to this subsection with the cochairpersons and ranking members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on the justice system and to the legislative services agency by December 15, 2005.

¹ See chapter 179, §46 herein

² See chapter 179, §49 herein

7. In addition to the requirements for transfers under section 8.39, the judicial branch shall not change the appropriations from the amounts appropriated to the judicial branch in this Act, unless notice of the revisions is given prior to their effective date to the legislative services agency. The notice shall include information on the branch’s rationale for making the changes and details concerning the workload and performance measures upon which the changes are based.

8. The judicial branch shall submit a semiannual update to the legislative services agency specifying the amounts of fines, surcharges, and court costs collected using the Iowa court information system since the last report. The judicial branch shall continue to facilitate the sharing of vital sentencing and other information with other state departments and governmental agencies involved in the criminal justice system through the Iowa court information system.

9. The judicial branch shall provide a report to the general assembly by January 1, 2006, concerning the amounts received and expended from the enhanced court collections fund created in section 602.1304 and the court technology and modernization fund created in section 602.8108, subsection 5, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005, and the plans for expenditures from each fund during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2006. A copy of the report shall be provided to the legislative services agency.

Sec. 2. JUDICIAL RETIREMENT FUND. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the judicial retirement fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2006, the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purpose designated:

Notwithstanding section 602.9104, for the state’s contribution to the judicial retirement fund in the amount of 9.7 percent of the basic salaries of the judges covered under chapter 602, article 9:

..... \$ 2,039,664

Sec. 3. Section 602.6401, subsection 1, Code 2005, is amended to read as follows:

1. ~~One~~ Two hundred ~~ninety-one~~ six magistrates shall be apportioned among the counties as provided in this section. Magistrates appointed pursuant to section 602.6402 shall not be counted for purposes of this section.

Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 602.8102A NOTICES RETURNED FOR UNKNOWN ADDRESS — RESENDING.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Code to the contrary, and subject to rules prescribed by the supreme court, if the clerk of the district court sends a mailing or notice to a person or party and the mailing or notice is returned by the postal service to the clerk of the district court as undeliverable, the clerk is not required to send a repeat or subsequent mailing or notice unless the clerk receives an updated mailing address.

Sec. 5. Section 602.8105, subsection 2, Code 2005, is amended to read as follows:

- 2. The clerk of the district court shall collect the following fees for miscellaneous services:
 - a. For filing, entering, and endorsing a mechanic’s lien, twenty dollars, and if a suit is brought, the fee is taxable as other costs in the action.
 - b. For filing and entering an agricultural supply dealer’s lien and any other statutory lien, twenty dollars.
 - c. For a certificate and seal, ten dollars. However, there shall be no charge for a certificate and seal to an application to procure a pension, bounty, or back pay for a member of the armed services or other person.
 - d. For certifying a change in title of real estate, twenty dollars.
 - e. For filing a praecipe to issue execution under chapter 626, twenty-five dollars.
 - f. For filing a praecipe to issue execution under chapter 654, fifty dollars.

g. For filing a confession of judgment under chapter 676, fifty dollars if the judgment is five thousand dollars or less, and one hundred dollars if the judgment exceeds five thousand dollars.

~~e.~~ h. Other fees provided by law.

Sec. 6. Section 901.4, Code 2005, is amended to read as follows:

901.4 PRESENTENCE INVESTIGATION REPORT CONFIDENTIAL — DISTRIBUTION.

The presentence investigation report is confidential and the court shall provide safeguards to ensure its confidentiality, including but not limited to sealing the report, which may be opened only by further court order. At least three days prior to the date set for sentencing, the court shall ~~serve~~ send a copy of all of the presentence investigation report ~~upon~~ by ordinary or electronic mail, to the defendant's attorney and the attorney for the state, and the report shall remain confidential except upon court order. However, the court may conceal the identity of the person who provided confidential information. The report of a medical examination or psychological or psychiatric evaluation shall be made available to the attorney for the state and to the defendant upon request. The reports are part of the record but shall be sealed and opened only on order of the court. If the defendant is committed to the custody of the Iowa department of corrections and is not a class "A" felon, a copy of the presentence investigation report shall be forwarded by ordinary or electronic mail to the director with the order of commitment by the clerk of the district court and to the board of parole at the time of commitment. Pursuant to section 904.602, the presentence investigation report may also be released by ordinary or electronic mail by the department of corrections or a judicial district department of correctional services to another jurisdiction for the purpose of providing interstate probation and parole compact or interstate compact for adult offender supervision services or evaluations, or to a substance abuse or mental health services provider when referring a defendant for services. The defendant or the defendant's attorney may file with the presentence investigation report, a denial or refutation of the allegations, or both, contained in the report. The denial or refutation shall be included in the report. If the person is sentenced for an offense which requires registration under chapter 692A, the court shall release the report by ordinary or electronic mail to the department.

Sec. 7. STUDY OF COURT RULES RELATING TO TRIBAL COURTS. The general assembly acknowledges that contact and interaction between the Iowa court system and federally recognized tribal courts are ever increasing and the general assembly urges the Iowa supreme court to study this interaction and consider developing and prescribing rules that relate to the tribal court system, tribal court orders, judgments, and decrees.

Sec. 8. Section 607A.8, Code 2005, is amended to read as follows:

607A.8 FEES AND EXPENSES FOR JURORS.

Grand jurors and petit jurors in all courts shall receive ten dollars as compensation for each day's service or attendance, including attendance required for the purpose of being considered for service, reimbursement for mileage expenses at the rate specified in section 602.1509 for each mile traveled each day to and from their residences to the place of service or attendance, and reimbursement for actual expenses of parking, as determined by the clerk. The supreme court may adopt rules that allow additional compensation for jurors whose attendance and service exceeds seven days. A juror who is a person with a disability may receive reimbursement for the costs of alternate transportation from the juror's residence to the place of service or attendance. A juror shall not receive reimbursement for mileage expenses or actual expenses of parking when the juror travels in a vehicle for which another juror is receiving reimbursement for mileage and parking expenses.

Sec. 9. APPOINTMENT OF CLERK OF COURT. The appointment of a clerk of the district court shall not occur unless the state court administrator approves the appointment.

Sec. 10. POSTING OF REPORTS IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT — LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY. All reports or copies of reports required to be provided by the judicial branch for fiscal year 2005-2006 to the legislative services agency shall be provided in an electronic format. The legislative services agency shall post the reports on its internet site and shall notify by electronic means all the members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on the justice system when a report is posted. Upon request, copies of the reports may be mailed to members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on the justice system.

Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE. The section of this Act appropriating funds that are contingent upon the general fund of the state receiving funds from the Microsoft settlement, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved June 14, 2005, with exception noted.

THOMAS J. VILSACK, Governor

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit House File 807, an Act relating to and making appropriations to the judicial branch, and providing an effective date.

House File 807 is approved on this date, with the following exception, which I hereby disapprove:

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 11 in its entirety. This section deals with a reference to a contingent appropriation from the Microsoft settlement and would have it be effective upon enactment. The language making the contingent appropriation was removed during session, thereby making this section unnecessary.

For the above reasons, I respectfully disapprove this item in accordance with Article III, Section 16 of the Constitution of the State of Iowa. All other items in House File 807 are hereby approved as of this date.

Sincerely,
THOMAS J. VILSACK, Governor

* Item veto; see message at end of the Act