

By: Herrero

H.B. No. 1576

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the justice court technology fund and to requiring the  
3 assessment of a technology fee on conviction of certain misdemeanor  
4 offenses.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Articles 102.0173(a) and (d), Code of Criminal  
7 Procedure, are amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The commissioners court of a county by order shall:

9 (1) [may] ~~[may]~~ create a justice court technology fund; and

10 (2) [may] ~~[may]~~ require a defendant convicted of a  
11 misdemeanor offense in a justice court to pay a technology fee not  
12 to exceed \$4 as a cost of court.

13 (d) A fund designated by this article may be used only to  
14 finance:

15 (1) the cost of continuing education and training for  
16 justice court judges and clerks regarding available technological  
17 enhancements for justice courts; and

18 (2) the purchase of technological enhancements for a  
19 justice court, including:

20 (A) [~~(1)~~] computer systems;

21 (B) [~~(2)~~] computer networks;

22 (C) [~~(3)~~] computer hardware;

23 (D) [~~(4)~~] computer software;

24 (E) [~~(5)~~] imaging systems;

- 1            (F) [~~(6)~~] electronic kiosks;
- 2            (G) [~~(7)~~] electronic ticket writers; and
- 3            (H) [~~(8)~~] docket management systems.

4            SECTION 2. Section 102.081, Government Code, is amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            Sec. 102.081. ADDITIONAL COURT COSTS ON CONVICTION IN  
7 COUNTY COURT. The clerk of a county court shall collect fees and  
8 costs on conviction of a defendant as follows:

- 9            (1) a jury fee (Art. 102.004, Code of Criminal  
10 Procedure) . . . \$20;
- 11            (2) a fee for clerk of the court services (Art.  
12 102.005, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . \$40;
- 13            (3) a records management and preservation services fee  
14 (Art. 102.005, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . \$20;
- 15            (4) a security fee on a misdemeanor offense (Art.  
16 102.017, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . \$3; [~~and~~]
- 17            (5) a graffiti eradication fee (Art. 102.0171, Code of  
18 Criminal Procedure) . . . \$5; and
- 19            (6) a technology fee (Art. 102.0173, Code of Criminal  
20 Procedure) . . . \$4.

21            SECTION 3. Article 102.0173(f), Code of Criminal Procedure,  
22 is repealed.

23            SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
24 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
25 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is  
26 governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and  
27 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For

1 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the  
2 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense was  
3 committed before that date.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.