

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

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| Bill No.: | HB 3957 |
| Version: | Introduced |
| Request Number: | 10265 |
| Author: | Rep. Walke |
| Date: | 3/21/2022 |
| Impact: | State Judicial Fund revenue decrease |

Research Analysis

HB3957, as introduced, deletes a provision that allows the court clerk to collect a fee for language interpreter services in criminal cases. A second provision prohibiting the court from waiving or dismissing criminal court costs is also stricken.

The measure also allows an existing \$0.45 fee charged in each civil case filing to be used by the Supreme Court for expenditures related to providing language access in the district courts and credentialing and training Oklahoma courtroom interpreters.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

The measure, as introduced, would modify the procedure for collecting and reimbursing costs associated with courtroom language interpreters. Section 1 of the measure would modify the administrative procedure the Supreme Court uses to procure interpreter services for the district courts in civil cases. Section 2 of the measure modifies the procedures for procuring courtroom interpreters in criminal cases.

Upon review, the measure may have a fiscal impact. By eliminating the fee charged in criminal cases, the measure would require district courts to pay for courtroom interpretation expenses out of the local court fund. This would then reduce the amount of court collections remitted to the State Judicial Fund and thus the amount available for legislative appropriation from said fund.

Prepared By: Clayton Mayfield

Other Considerations

None.