

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 951
Version:	CS
Request No.:	1879
Author:	Sen. Daniels
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Bill Analysis

The CS for SB 951 provides that an officer who arrests a person for failure to appear in court may issue a citation for such a person to appear for a hearing. The measure also directs the court to inform defendants of their responsibility to keep the court clerk apprised of the defendant's contact information until outstanding fines, costs, fees, or assessments have been paid. A defendant must also be informed of their right to appear before the court to inform it of his or her inability to pay outstanding fines. Upon successful demonstration that the defendant cannot pay outstanding fines and fees, the court may modify its order by the imposition or modification of a payment plan, a reduction in the amount owed, or a waiver of payment of the amount owed. The court is required to consider certain factors outlined in the measure when determining whether the defendant willfully refused or neglected to pay or was unable to pay fines, costs, fees, restitution, or assessments. Persons found to have willfully refused to pay the fines shall be subject to incarceration in the county jail for up to 30 days and a fine of at least \$50.00 per day.

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