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HOUSE BILL NO. 2444

House Amendments in [] — January 30, 2003

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 16.1-69.48:5, relating to fees for services of juvenile and domestic relations district court judges and clerks in certain civil cases.

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Delegate Griffith

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 16.1-69.48:5 as follows:

§ 16.1-69.48:5. Fees for services of juvenile and domestic relations district court judges and clerks in certain civil cases.

Except as otherwise provided, upon the initial commencement of any case in the juvenile and domestic relations district court pursuant to subdivision A 3 of § 16.1-241 when the custody [, or] visitation [, or support] of a child is a subject of controversy or requires determination, there shall be a filing fee of [\$45 \$25]. No case to which this fee is applicable shall be processed by the intake officer or, if brought by counsel, filed with the clerk until this fee has been paid except on account of poverty as provided in § 17.1-606. [~~The intake officer shall promptly remit any fee collected to the court having jurisdiction over the case, along with the petition.~~ Fees shall be paid to the clerk in the jurisdiction in which the petition is filed.]

This fee shall not be charged in any case brought by an agent of the Commonwealth or of a local government entity.

When service of process is had on the respondent named in a petition for which the filing fee established by this section has been paid, such petition may be reissued once by changing the return day of such process, for which service there shall be no charge; however, reissuance of such process shall be within 3 months after the original return day.

ENGROSSED

HB2444E