

By Senator Norman

12-00670A-11

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to counties and municipalities;
3 creating ss. 125.01052 and 166.0498, F.S.; authorizing
4 the board of county commissioners and the governing
5 body of a municipality to pursue the collection of
6 delinquent fees, service charges, fines, or costs
7 through the use of a private attorney or a collection
8 agent; providing that the collection fee, including
9 attorney's fees, may be added to the balance owed;
10 limiting the amount of the fee; providing an effective
11 date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Section 125.01052, Florida Statutes, is created
16 to read:

17 125.01052 Collection of delinquent financial obligations.-
18 The board of county commissioners may pursue the collection of
19 any fees, service charges, fines, or costs to which it is
20 entitled and which remain unpaid for 90 days or more, or refer
21 the account to a private attorney who is a member in good
22 standing of The Florida Bar or a collection agent who is
23 registered and in good standing pursuant to chapter 559. The
24 collection fee, including any reasonable attorney's fee, paid to
25 any attorney or collection agent may be added to the balance
26 owed at the time the account is referred to the attorney or
27 agent for collection and may not exceed 40 percent of the amount
28 owed at the time the account is referred for collection.

29 Section 2. Section 166.0498, Florida Statutes, is created

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30 to read:

31 166.0498 Collection of delinquent financial obligations.-
32 The governing body of a municipality may pursue the collection
33 of any fees, service charges, fines, or costs to which it is
34 entitled and which remain unpaid for 90 days or more, or refer
35 the account to a private attorney who is a member in good
36 standing of The Florida Bar or a collection agent who is
37 registered and in good standing pursuant to chapter 559. The
38 collection fee, including any reasonable attorney's fee, paid to
39 any attorney or collection agent may be added to the balance
40 owed at the time the account is referred to the attorney or
41 agent for collection and may not exceed 40 percent of the amount
42 owed at the time the account is referred for collection.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.