By the Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice; the Committee on Judiciary; and Senators Hutson, Rouson, Martin, and Hooper

604-03506-24 20241470c2 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to clerks of the court; amending s. 3 27.52, F.S.; revising the fund into which moneys 4 recovered by certain state attorneys must be 5 deposited; amending s. 27.54, F.S.; revising the fund 6 into which certain payments received must be deposited 7 as related to public defenders or regional counsels; 8 making technical changes; amending s. 27.703, F.S.; 9 revising the entity that funds the capital collateral 10 regional counsel; amending s. 28.241, F.S.; revising 11 the allocation of filing fees for certain trial and 12 appellate proceedings; amending s. 28.35, F.S.; 13 providing additional duties of the Florida Clerks of 14 Court Operations Corporation related to budget 15 requests; revising the functions that clerks of the court may fund using certain fees and fines; amending 16 17 s. 28.37, F.S.; requiring the Florida Clerks of Court 18 Operations Corporation to calculate certain excesses 19 collected from fines, fees, service charges, and costs 20 annually by a date certain; amending s. 34.041, F.S.; 21 revising the fund into which certain filing fees are 22 to be deposited; amending s. 40.29, F.S.; authorizing 23 the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation to 24 submit requests for reimbursement at a specified rate 25 for petitions related to certain sexual violence offenses; requiring clerks of the court who receive 2.6 27 the reimbursement to pay the law enforcement agency 28 serving injunctions a specified fee if requested; 29 authorizing the corporation to submit reimbursement

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30	requests for approved applications for civil indigency
31	in which the filing fee was waived; authorizing the
32	corporation to submit to the Justice Administrative
33	Commission a certain amount related to Florida
34	Retirement System contribution rate increases for
35	court-related employees; amending s. 57.082, F.S.;
36	conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
37	amending s. 110.112, F.S.; deleting a provision
38	requiring each state attorney to publish an annual
39	report addressing results of his or her affirmative
40	action program; amending s. 142.01, F.S.; authorizing
41	clerks of the circuit court to invest specified funds
42	in an interest-bearing account; requiring that
43	interest earned in the fine and forfeiture fund be
44	deposited in the Public Records Modernization Trust
45	Fund and used exclusively for certain operations and
46	enhancements; amending s. 186.003, F.S.; revising the
47	definition of "state agency"; amending s. 318.18,
48	F.S.; revising the distribution of certain civil
49	penalty amounts and administrative fees; creating s.
50	322.76, F.S.; creating the Clerk of the Court Driver
51	License Reinstatement Pilot Program in Miami-Dade
52	County; defining the term "clerk"; authorizing the
53	clerk of the circuit court for Miami-Dade County to
54	reinstate or provide an affidavit to the Department of
55	Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to reinstate certain
56	suspended driver licenses; establishing requirements
57	for the clerk under the program to be performed by a
58	date certain; providing for expiration of the program;

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59	amending s. 501.2101, F.S.; revising the funds into
60	which certain moneys received by state attorneys must
61	be deposited; amending s. 741.30, F.S.; deleting a
62	provision authorizing certain clerks of circuit courts
63	to request reimbursement for certain petitions related
64	to domestic violence; amending s. 784.046, F.S.;
65	deleting a provision authorizing the clerk of circuit
66	court, under specific circumstances, to request
67	reimbursement for certain petitions related to repeat,
68	sexual, or dating violence; amending s. 784.0485,
69	F.S.; deleting a provision authorizing clerks of the
70	circuit court, under specific circumstances, to
71	request reimbursement for certain petitions related to
72	stalking; providing an effective date.
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74	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
75	
76	Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section
77	27.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
78	27.52 Determination of indigent status
79	(7) FINANCIAL DISCREPANCIES; FRAUD; FALSE INFORMATION
80	(b) If the court has reason to believe that any applicant,
81	through fraud or misrepresentation, was improperly determined to
82	be indigent or indigent for costs, the matter shall be referred
83	to the state attorney. Twenty-five percent of any amount
84	recovered by the state attorney as reasonable value of the
85	services rendered, including fees, charges, and costs paid by
86	the state on the person's behalf, shall be remitted to the
87	Department of Revenue for deposit into the Grants and Donations

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88	Trust Fund <u>of the applicable state attorney</u> within the Justice
89	Administrative Commission. Seventy-five percent of any amount
90	recovered shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for
91	deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
92	Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
93	27.54, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
94	27.54 Limitation on payment of expenditures other than by
95	the state
96	(2) A county or municipality may contract with, or
97	appropriate or contribute funds to, the operation of the offices
98	of the various public defenders and regional <u>counsels</u> counsel as
99	provided in this subsection. A public defender or regional
100	counsel defending violations of special laws or county or
101	municipal ordinances punishable by incarceration and not
102	ancillary to a state charge shall contract with counties and
103	municipalities to recover the full cost of services rendered on
104	an hourly basis or reimburse the state for the full cost of
105	assigning one or more full-time equivalent attorney positions to
106	work on behalf of the county or municipality. Notwithstanding
107	any other provision of law, in the case of a county with a
108	population of less than 75,000, the public defender or regional
109	counsel shall contract for full reimbursement, or for
110	reimbursement as the parties otherwise agree. In local ordinance
111	violation cases, the county or municipality shall pay for due
112	process services that are approved by the court, including
113	deposition costs, deposition transcript costs, investigative
114	costs, witness fees, expert witness costs, and interpreter
115	costs. The person charged with the violation shall be assessed a
116	fee for the services of a public defender or regional counsel

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117	and other costs and fees paid by the county or municipality,
118	which assessed fee may be reduced to a lien, in all instances in
119	which the person enters a plea of guilty or no contest or is
120	found to be in violation or guilty of any count or lesser
121	included offense of the charge or companion case charges,
122	regardless of adjudication. The court shall determine the amount
123	of the obligation. The county or municipality may recover
124	assessed fees through collections court or as otherwise
125	permitted by law, and any fees recovered pursuant to this
126	section shall be forwarded to the applicable county or
127	municipality as reimbursement.
128	(c) Any payments received pursuant to this subsection shall
129	be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund <u>of</u> within
130	the applicable public defender or criminal conflict and civil
131	regional counsel Justice Administrative Commission for
132	appropriation by the Legislature.
133	Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 27.703, Florida
134	Statutes, is amended to read:
135	27.703 Conflict of interest and substitute counsel
136	(2) Appointed counsel shall be paid from funds appropriated
137	to the <u>Justice Administrative Commission</u> Chief Financial
138	Officer. The hourly rate may not exceed \$100. However, all
139	appointments of private counsel under this section shall be in
140	accordance with ss. 27.710 and 27.711.
141	Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
142	28.241, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
143	28.241 Filing fees for trial and appellate proceedings
144	(1) Filing fees are due at the time a party files a
145	pleading to initiate a proceeding or files a pleading for
I	

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146	relief. Reopen fees are due at the time a party files a pleading
147	to reopen a proceeding if at least 90 days have elapsed since
148	the filing of a final order or final judgment with the clerk. If
149	a fee is not paid upon the filing of the pleading as required
150	under this section, the clerk shall pursue collection of the fee
151	pursuant to s. 28.246.
152	(a)1.a. Except as provided in sub-subparagraph b. and
153	subparagraph 2., the party instituting any civil action, suit,
154	or proceeding in the circuit court shall pay to the clerk of
155	that court a filing fee of up to \$395 in all cases in which
156	there are not more than five defendants and an additional filing
157	fee of up to \$2.50, from which the clerk shall remit \$0.50 to
158	the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue
159	Fund, for each defendant in excess of five. Of the first \$200 in
160	filing fees, \$195 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue
161	for deposit into the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund, \$4 must be
162	remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the
163	Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial
164	Services and used to fund the contract with the Florida Clerks
165	of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must
166	be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the
167	Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial
168	Services to fund audits of individual clerks' court-related
169	expenditures conducted by the Department of Financial Services.
170	b. The party instituting any civil action, suit, or

b. The party instituting any civil action, suit, or proceeding in the circuit court under chapter 39, chapter 61, chapter 741, chapter 742, chapter 747, chapter 752, or chapter 753 shall pay to the clerk of that court a filing fee of up to \$295 in all cases in which there are not more than five

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175 defendants and an additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each 176 defendant in excess of five. Of the first \$100 in filing fees, 177 \$95 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit 178 into the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund, \$4 must be remitted to 179 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative 180 Trust Fund within the Department of Financial Services and used 181 to fund the contract with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must be remitted to the 182 183 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 184 Fund within the Department of Financial Services to fund audits 185 of individual clerks' court-related expenditures conducted by 186 the Department of Financial Services.

187 c. An additional filing fee of \$4 shall be paid to the 188 clerk. The clerk shall remit \$3.50 to the Department of Revenue 189 for deposit into the Court Education Trust Fund and shall remit 190 50 cents to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 191 Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 192 Services to fund clerk education provided by the Florida Clerks 193 of Court Operations Corporation. An additional filing fee of up 194 to \$18 shall be paid by the party seeking each severance that is 195 granted, from which the clerk shall remit \$3 to the Department 196 of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. The clerk 197 may impose an additional filing fee of up to \$85, from which the 198 clerk shall remit \$10 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, for all proceedings of 199 200 garnishment, attachment, replevin, and distress. Postal charges 201 incurred by the clerk of the circuit court in making service by 202 certified or registered mail on defendants or other parties 203 shall be paid by the party at whose instance service is made.

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604-03506-24 20241470c2 204 Additional fees, charges, or costs may not be added to the 205 filing fees imposed under this section, except as authorized in 206 this section or by general law. 207 2.a. Notwithstanding the fees prescribed in subparagraph 208 1., a party instituting a civil action in circuit court relating 209 to real property or mortgage foreclosure shall pay a graduated 210 filing fee based on the value of the claim. 211 b. A party shall estimate in writing the amount in controversy of the claim upon filing the action. For purposes of 212 213 this subparagraph, the value of a mortgage foreclosure action is based upon the principal due on the note secured by the 214 215 mortgage, plus interest owed on the note and any moneys advanced 216 by the lender for property taxes, insurance, and other advances 217 secured by the mortgage, at the time of filing the foreclosure. The value shall also include the value of any tax certificates 218 219 related to the property. In stating the value of a mortgage 220 foreclosure claim, a party shall declare in writing the total 221 value of the claim, as well as the individual elements of the 222 value as prescribed in this sub-subparagraph. 223 c. In its order providing for the final disposition of the

matter, the court shall identify the actual value of the claim. The clerk shall adjust the filing fee if there is a difference between the estimated amount in controversy and the actual value of the claim and collect any additional filing fee owed or provide a refund of excess filing fee paid.

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d. The party shall pay a filing fee of:

(I) Three hundred and ninety-five dollars in all cases in
which the value of the claim is \$50,000 or less and in which
there are not more than five defendants. The party shall pay an

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233 additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each defendant in 234 excess of five. Of the first \$200 in filing fees, \$195 must be 235 remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit 236 into the General Revenue Fund, \$4 must be remitted to the 237 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 238 Fund within the Department of Financial Services and used to 239 fund the contract with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must be remitted to the 240 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 241 242 Fund within the Department of Financial Services to fund audits 243 of individual clerks' court-related expenditures conducted by 244 the Department of Financial Services;

245 (II) Nine hundred dollars in all cases in which the value 246 of the claim is more than \$50,000 but less than \$250,000 and in which there are not more than five defendants. The party shall 247 248 pay an additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each defendant 249 in excess of five. Of the first \$355 in filing fees, \$350 must 250 be remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for 251 deposit into the General Revenue Fund, \$4 must be remitted to 252 the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative 253 Trust Fund within the Department of Financial Services and used 254 to fund the contract with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations 255 Corporation created in s. 28.35, and \$1 must be remitted to the 256 Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust 257 Fund within the Department of Financial Services to fund audits 2.58 of individual clerks' court-related expenditures conducted by 259 the Department of Financial Services; or

(III) One thousand nine hundred dollars in all cases in which the value of the claim is \$250,000 or more and in which

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262 there are not more than five defendants. The party shall pay an 263 additional filing fee of up to \$2.50 for each defendant in excess of five. Of the first \$1,240 \$1,705 in filing fees, \$465 264 265 \$930 must be remitted by the clerk to the Department of Revenue 266 for deposit into the General Revenue Fund, \$770 must be remitted 267 to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the State Courts 268 Revenue Trust Fund, \$4 must be remitted to the Department of 269 Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund within 270 the Department of Financial Services to fund the contract with 271 the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation created in s. 272 28.35, and \$1 must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for 273 deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund within the Department 274 of Financial Services to fund audits of individual clerks' 275 court-related expenditures conducted by the Department of 276 Financial Services.

277 e. An additional filing fee of \$4 shall be paid to the 278 clerk. The clerk shall remit \$3.50 to the Department of Revenue 279 for deposit into the Court Education Trust Fund and shall remit 280 50 cents to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 281 Administrative Trust Fund within the Department of Financial 282 Services to fund clerk education provided by the Florida Clerks 283 of Court Operations Corporation. An additional filing fee of up 284 to \$18 shall be paid by the party seeking each severance that is 285 granted. The clerk may impose an additional filing fee of up to 286 \$85 for all proceedings of garnishment, attachment, replevin, 287 and distress. Postal charges incurred by the clerk of the 288 circuit court in making service by certified or registered mail 289 on defendants or other parties shall be paid by the party at 290 whose instance service is made. Additional fees, charges, or

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291	costs may not be added to the filing fees imposed under this
292	section, except as authorized in this section or by general law.
293	Section 5. Paragraph (i) of subsection (2) and paragraph
294	(a) of subsection (3) of section 28.35, Florida Statutes, are
295	amended, and paragraph (j) is added to subsection (2) of that
296	section, to read:
297	28.35 Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation
298	(2) The duties of the corporation shall include the
299	following:
300	(i) Annually preparing a budget request which,
301	notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 216 and in accordance
302	with s. 216.351, provides the anticipated amount necessary for
303	reimbursement pursuant to s. $40.29(6)$ and (7) . The request for
304	the anticipated reimbursement amount shall be submitted in the
305	form and manner prescribed by the Justice Administrative
306	Commission. Such request is not subject to change by the Justice
307	Administrative Commission, except for technical changes
308	necessary to conform to the legislative budget instructions, and
309	shall be submitted to the Governor for transmittal to the
310	Legislature.
311	(j) Annually preparing a budget request that,
312	notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 216 and in accordance
313	with s. 216.351, provides the anticipated amount necessary to
314	fund increases in employer contribution rates pursuant to ss.
315	121.71 and 121.72 for court-related employees participating in
316	the Florida Retirement System. The request for the anticipated
317	appropriation must be submitted in the form and manner
318	prescribed by the Justice Administrative Commission. The budget
319	request may not be changed by the Justice Administrative

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320	Commission, except for technical changes necessary to conform to
321	the legislative budget instructions, and must be submitted to
322	the Governor for transmittal to the Legislature.
323	(3)(a) The list of court-related functions that clerks may
324	fund from filing fees, service charges, court costs, and fines
325	is limited to those functions expressly authorized by law or
326	court rule. Those functions include the following: case
327	maintenance; records management; court preparation and
328	attendance; processing the assignment, reopening, and
329	reassignment of cases; processing of appeals; collection and
330	distribution of fines, fees, service charges, and court costs;
331	processing of bond forfeiture payments; data collection and
332	reporting; determinations of indigent status; improving court
333	technology; and paying reasonable administrative support costs
334	to enable the clerk of the court to carry out these court-
335	related functions.
336	Section 6. Paragraph (b) subsection (4) of section 28.37,
337	Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
338	28.37 Fines, fees, service charges, and costs remitted to
339	the state
340	(4)
341	(b) No later than February 1 <u>annually</u> , 2022, and each
342	February 1 thereafter, the <u>Florida Clerks of Court Operations</u>
343	<u>Corporation must calculate</u> Department of Revenue shall transfer
344	50 percent of the cumulative excess, which of the original
345	revenue projection from the Clerks of the Court Trust Fund to
346	the General Revenue Fund. The remaining 50 percent in the Clerks
347	of the Court Trust Fund may be used in the development of the
348	total combined budgets of the clerks of the court as provided in

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349	s. 28.35(2)(f)6. However, A minimum of 10 percent of the clerk-
350	retained portion of the cumulative excess amount must be held in
351	reserve until such funds reach an amount equal to at least 16
352	percent of the total budget authority from the current county
353	fiscal year, as provided in s. 28.36(3)(a).
354	Section 7. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of
355	section 34.041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
356	34.041 Filing fees
357	(1)
358	(c) A party in addition to a party described in paragraph
359	(a) who files a pleading in an original civil action in the
360	county court for affirmative relief by cross-claim,
361	counterclaim, counterpetition, or third-party complaint, or who
362	files a notice of cross-appeal or notice of joinder or motion to
363	intervene as an appellant, cross-appellant, or petitioner, shall
364	pay the clerk of court a fee of \$295 if the relief sought by the
365	party under this paragraph exceeds \$2,500 but is not more than
366	\$15,000 and \$395 if the relief sought by the party under this
367	paragraph exceeds \$15,000. The clerk shall <u>deposit</u> remit the fee
368	if the relief sought by the party under this paragraph exceeds
369	\$2,500 but is not more than \$15,000 to the Department of Revenue
370	for deposit into the fine and forfeiture fund established
371	pursuant to s. 142.01 General Revenue Fund. This fee does not
372	apply if the cross-claim, counterclaim, counterpetition, or
373	third-party complaint requires transfer of the case from county
374	to circuit court. However, the party shall pay to the clerk the
375	standard filing fee for the court to which the case is to be
376	transferred.
377	(d) The clerk of court shall collect a service charge of

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378	\$10 for issuing a summons or an electronic certified copy of a
379	summons, which the clerk shall <u>deposit into the fine and</u>
380	forfeiture fund established pursuant to s. 142.01 remit to the
381	Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
382	The clerk shall assess the fee against the party seeking to have
383	the summons issued.
384	Section 8. Subsection (6) of section 40.29, Florida
385	Statutes, is amended, and subsections (7) and (8) are added to
386	that section, to read:
387	40.29 Payment of due-process costs; reimbursement for
388	petitions, and orders, and waived civil filing fees for
389	indigency; payment of Florida Retirement System costs for court-
390	related employees
391	(6) Subject to legislative appropriation, the <u>Florida</u>
392	<u>Clerks of Court Operations Corporation</u> clerk of the circuit
393	court may, <u>on behalf of the clerks of the circuit court,</u> on a
394	quarterly basis, submit to the Justice Administrative Commission
395	a certified request for reimbursement for petitions and orders
396	filed under ss. 394.459, 394.463, 394.467, 394.917, and
397	397.6814, at the rate of \$40 per petition or order <u>and for</u>
398	orders filed under ss. 741.30, 784.046, and 784.0485, the
399	Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation may, on a
400	quarterly basis, submit a request for reimbursement at the rate
401	of \$195 per petition. From this reimbursement, the clerk of the
402	court receiving reimbursement must pay any law enforcement
403	agency serving injunctions a fee not to exceed \$40 per
404	injunction, if so requested by the law enforcement agency. Such
405	request for reimbursement shall be submitted in the form and
406	manner prescribed by the Justice Administrative Commission

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604-03506-24 20241470c2 407 pursuant to s. 28.35(2)(i). 408 (7) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Florida 409 Clerks of Court Operations Corporation may, on a quarterly 410 basis, submit to the Justice Administrative Commission a 411 certified request for reimbursement for approved applications 412 for civil indigency under s. 57.082, in which the civil filing 413 fee has been waived, at the rate of \$195 per approved 414 application. The request for reimbursement shall be submitted in 415 the form and manner prescribed by the Justice Administrative 416 Commission pursuant to s. 28.35(2)(i). 417 (8) Subject to legislative appropriation, the Florida 418 Clerks of Court Operations Corporation must submit to the Justice Administrative Commission a certified amount by county 419 420 of the employer contribution rate increases for the Florida 421 Retirement System for court-related employees. 422 Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section 423 57.082, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 424 57.082 Determination of civil indigent status.-425 (7) FINANCIAL DISCREPANCIES; FRAUD; FALSE INFORMATION.-426 (b) If the court has reason to believe that any applicant, 427 through fraud or misrepresentation, was improperly determined to 428 be indigent, the matter shall be referred to the state attorney. 429 Twenty-five percent of any amount recovered by the state 430 attorney as reasonable value of the services rendered, including 431 fees, charges, and costs paid by the state on the person's 432 behalf, shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for 433 deposit into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of within the 434 applicable state attorney Justice Administrative Commission. 435 Seventy-five percent of any amount recovered shall be remitted

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436	to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General
437	Revenue Fund.
438	Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section
439	110.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
440	110.112 Affirmative action; equal employment opportunity
441	(4) Each state attorney and public defender shall:
442	(d) Report annually to the Justice Administrative
443	Commission on the implementation, continuance, updating, and
444	results of his or her affirmative action program for the
445	previous fiscal year.
446	Section 11. Present subsection (2) of section 142.01,
447	Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (3), a new
448	subsection (2) is added to that section, and subsection (1) of
449	that section is amended, to read:
450	142.01 Fine and forfeiture fund; disposition of revenue;
451	clerk of the circuit court
452	(1) <u>(a)</u> There shall be established by the clerk of the
453	circuit court in each county of this state a separate fund to be
454	known as the fine and forfeiture fund for use by the clerk of
455	the circuit court in performing court-related functions. The
456	fund shall consist of the following:
457	1.(a) Fines and penalties pursuant to ss. 28.2402(2),
458	34.045(2), 316.193, 327.35, 327.72, 379.2203(1), and 775.083(1).
459	2.(b) That portion of civil penalties directed to this fund
460	pursuant to s. 318.21.
461	3.(c) Court costs pursuant to ss. 28.2402(1)(b),
462	34.045(1)(b), 318.14(10)(b), 318.18(11)(a), 327.73(9)(a) and
463	(11)(a), and 938.05(3).
464	4.(d) Proceeds from forfeited bail bonds, unclaimed bonds,
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465	unclaimed moneys, or recognizances pursuant to ss. 321.05(4)(a),
466	379.2203(1), and 903.26(3)(a).
467	5.(e) Fines and forfeitures pursuant to s. 34.191.
468	<u>6.(f)</u> Filing fees received pursuant to ss. 28.241 and
469	34.041, unless the disposition of such fees is otherwise
470	required by law.
471	7.(g) All other revenues received by the clerk as revenue
472	authorized by law to be retained by the clerk.
473	(b) The clerk of the circuit court in each county may
474	invest funds held in the fine and forfeiture fund as provided in
475	paragraph (a) in an interest-bearing account.
476	(2) Interest earned in the fine and forfeiture fund must be
477	deposited into the Public Records Modernization Trust Fund to be
478	used exclusively for additional court-related operations and
479	enhancements.
480	Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 186.003, Florida
481	Statutes, is amended to read:
482	186.003 Definitions; ss. 186.001-186.031, 186.801-186.901
483	As used in ss. 186.001-186.031 and 186.801-186.901, the term:
484	(6) "State agency" or "agency" means any official, officer,
485	commission, board, authority, council, committee, or department
486	of the executive branch of state government. For purposes of
487	this chapter, "state agency" or "agency" includes state
488	attorneys, public defenders, the capital collateral regional
489	counsel, the Justice Administrative Commission, and the Public
490	Service Commission.
491	Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) and subsection
492	(18) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
493	318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a

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604-03506-24 20241470c2 494 noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal 495 offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows: 496 (8) (a) Any person who fails to comply with the court's 497 requirements or who fails to pay the civil penalties specified in this section within the 30-day period provided for in s. 498 499 318.14 must pay an additional civil penalty of \$16, \$1.50 \$6.50 500 of which must be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit in the General Revenue Fund, and \$9.50 of which must be 501 502 remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit in the Highway 503 Safety Operating Trust Fund, and \$5 of which shall be retained 504 by the clerk of the court to be deposited in the Public Records 505 Modernization Trust Fund and used exclusively for funding courtrelated technology needs of the clerk, as defined in s. 506 507 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h). Of this additional civil penalty of \$16, 508 \$4 is not revenue for purposes of s. 28.36 and may not be used 509 in establishing the budget of the clerk of the court under that 510 section or s. 28.35. The department shall contract with the 511 Florida Association of Court Clerks, Inc., to design, establish, 512 operate, upgrade, and maintain an automated statewide Uniform 513 Traffic Citation Accounting System to be operated by the clerks 514 of the court which shall include, but not be limited to, the 515 accounting for traffic infractions by type, a record of the 516 disposition of the citations, and an accounting system for the 517 fines assessed and the subsequent fine amounts paid to the 518 clerks of the court. The clerks of the court must provide the 519 information required by this chapter to be transmitted to the 520 department by electronic transmission pursuant to the contract. 521 (18) In addition to any penalties imposed, an

522 administrative fee of \$12.50 must be paid for all noncriminal

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523	moving and nonmoving violations under chapters 316, 320, and
524	322. Of this administrative fee, \$6.25 must be deposited into
525	the Public Records Modernization Trust Fund and used exclusively
526	for funding court-related technology needs of the clerk, as
527	defined in s. 29.008(1)(f)2. and (h), and \$6.25 must be
528	deposited into the fine and forfeiture fund established pursuant
529	to s. 142.01 The clerk shall remit the administrative fee to the
530	Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
531	Section 14. Section 322.76, Florida Statutes, is created to
532	read:
533	322.76 Miami-Dade County Clerk of the Court Driver License
534	Reinstatement Pilot ProgramThere is created in Miami-Dade
535	County the Clerk of the Court Driver License Reinstatement Pilot
536	Program.
537	(1) As used in this section, the term "clerk" means the
538	clerk of the circuit court for Miami-Dade County.
539	(2) Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary in
540	this chapter, the clerk may reinstate or provide an affidavit to
541	the department to reinstate a suspended driver license:
542	(a) For a person who failed to fulfill a court-ordered
543	child support obligation.
544	(b) As a result of the end of suspension because of points,
545	under s. 322.27, notwithstanding the person receiving a hardship
546	waiver.
547	(c) For a person who failed to comply with any provision of
548	chapter 318 or this chapter.
549	(3) Notwithstanding s. 322.29(1), an examination is not
550	required for the reinstatement of a driver license suspended
551	under s. 318.15 or s. 322.245 unless an examination is otherwise
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552	required by this chapter. A person applying for the
553	reinstatement of a driver license suspended under s. 318.15 or
554	s. 322.245 must present to the clerk certification from the
555	court that he or she has either complied with all obligations
556	and penalties imposed pursuant to s. 318.15 or with all
557	directives of the court and the requirements of s. 322.245.
558	(4) A nonrefundable service fee must be paid pursuant to s.
559	322.29(2).
560	(5) Before July 1, 2024, the department shall work with the
561	clerk, through the clerk's association, to ensure the ability
562	within its technology system for the clerk to reinstate
563	suspended driver licenses under the pilot program, to begin on
564	July 1, 2024.
565	(6) By December 31, 2025, the clerk must submit to the
566	Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House
567	of Representatives, and the executive director of the Florida
568	Clerks of Court Operations Corporation a report containing the
569	following information:
570	(a) Number of driver license reinstatements.
571	(b) Amount of fees and costs collected, including the
572	aggregate funds received by the clerk, local governmental
573	entities, and state entities, including the General Revenue
574	Fund.
575	(c) The personnel, operating, and other expenditures
576	incurred by the clerk.
577	(d) Feedback received from the community, if any, in
578	response to the clerk's participation in the pilot program.
579	(e) Whether the pilot program led to improved timeliness
580	for the reinstatement of driver licenses.
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581	(f) The clerk's recommendation as to whether the pilot
582	program should be extended in Miami-Dade County or expanded to
583	other clerks' offices.
584	(g) Any other information the clerk deems necessary.
585	(7) This section expires on July 1, 2026.
586	Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 501.2101, Florida
587	Statutes, is amended to read:
588	501.2101 Enforcing authorities; moneys received in certain
589	proceedings
590	(1) Any moneys received by an enforcing authority for
591	attorney attorney's fees and costs of investigation or
592	litigation in proceedings brought under the provisions of s.
593	501.207, s. 501.208, or s. 501.211 shall be deposited as
594	received in the Legal Affairs Revolving Trust Fund if the action
595	is brought by the Department of Legal Affairs, and in the <u>Grants</u>
596	<u>and Donations</u> Consumer Frauds Trust Fund of <u>a state attorney</u> the
597	Justice Administrative Commission if the action is brought by
598	the a state attorney.
599	Section 16. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
600	741.30, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
601	741.30 Domestic violence; injunction; powers and duties of
602	court and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary
603	injunction; issuance of injunction; statewide verification
604	system; enforcement; public records exemption
605	(2)(a) Notwithstanding any other law, the assessment of a
606	filing fee for a petition for protection against domestic
607	violence is prohibited. However, subject to legislative
608	appropriation, the clerk of the circuit court may, on a
609	quarterly basis, submit to the Office of the State Courts
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610	Administrator a certified request for reimbursement for
611	petitions for protection against domestic violence issued by the
612	court, at the rate of \$40 per petition. The request for
613	reimbursement must be submitted in the form and manner
614	prescribed by the Office of the State Courts Administrator. From
615	this reimbursement, the clerk shall pay any law enforcement
616	agency serving the injunction the fee requested by the law
617	enforcement agency; however, this fee may not exceed \$20.
618	Section 17. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
619	784.046, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
620	784.046 Action by victim of repeat violence, sexual
621	violence, or dating violence for protective injunction; dating
622	violence investigations, notice to victims, and reporting;
623	pretrial release violations; public records exemption
624	(3)(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the clerk of the
625	court may not assess a fee for filing a petition for protection
626	against repeat violence, sexual violence, or dating violence.
627	However, subject to legislative appropriation, the clerk of the
628	court may, each quarter, submit to the Office of the State
629	Courts Administrator a certified request for reimbursement for
630	petitions for protection issued by the court under this section
631	at the rate of \$40 per petition. The request for reimbursement
632	shall be submitted in the form and manner prescribed by the
633	Office of the State Courts Administrator. From this
634	reimbursement, the clerk shall pay the law enforcement agency
635	serving the injunction the fee requested by the law enforcement
636	agency; however, this fee may not exceed \$20.
637	Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
638	784.0485, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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639	784.0485 Stalking; injunction; powers and duties of court
640	and clerk; petition; notice and hearing; temporary injunction;
641	issuance of injunction; statewide verification system;
642	enforcement
643	(2)(a) Notwithstanding any other law, the clerk of court
644	may not assess a filing fee to file a petition for protection
645	against stalking. However, subject to legislative appropriation,
646	the clerk of the circuit court may, on a quarterly basis, submit
647	to the Office of the State Courts Administrator a certified
648	request for reimbursement for petitions for protection against
649	stalking issued by the court, at the rate of \$40 per petition.
650	The request for reimbursement shall be submitted in the form and
651	manner prescribed by the Office of the State Courts
652	Administrator. From this reimbursement, the clerk shall pay any
653	law enforcement agency serving the injunction the fee requested
654	by the law enforcement agency; however, this fee may not exceed
655	\$20.
656	Section 19. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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