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TITLE: CONCERNING A COURT'S AUTHORITY TO WAIVE CERTAIN CHARGES LEVIED

AGAINST INDIGENT DEFENDANTS.

## **Summary of Legislation**

If a defendant is indigent, the bill clarifies that the court is authorized to waive any costs or surcharges related to costs for victims and witness services that are levied on criminal actions and traffic offenses. The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

## Assessment

The bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact. It is a clarification of current practice. Judges have the authority to waive any surcharge or cost if the defendant is found to be indigent.

## **Departments Contacted**

Judicial Revenue Public Safety