

HB245 ENROLLED



1 7G8IV2-2
2 By Representatives Standridge, Shedd (N & P)
3 RFD: Local Legislation
4 First Read: 04-Apr-23
5
6 2023 Regular Session



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 Relating to Blount County; to provide for a new court
4 cost to fund payments to employees of the sheriff's office who
5 perform hazardous duties; and conditioning operation on voter
6 approval at a referendum.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

8 Section 1. (a) Immediately upon approval by a majority
9 of the voting qualified electors of Blount County, in addition
10 to any other court costs authorized in Blount County, there
11 shall be taxed a fee as follows:

12 (1) Twenty-five dollars (\$25) in each civil case filed
13 in any court, except for the small claims division of the
14 district court.

15 (2) Twenty-five dollars (\$25) in all misdemeanor and
16 felony criminal cases, including traffic offenses, upon
17 conviction.

18 (3) Ten dollars (\$10) for each case filed in the small
19 claims division of the district court.

20 (b) This fee shall not be waived by any court unless
21 all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges
22 associated with the case are waived.

23 (c) The fee collected pursuant to this section by the
24 clerk of each court shall be paid into a special fund
25 designated by the Blount County Commission as the Sheriff's
26 Department Hazardous Duty Fund, and shall be earmarked for
27 hazardous duty payment to the nonclerical employees of the
28 sheriff's office, excluding the sheriff, who perform hazardous



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29 duties.

30 (d) (1) No earlier than October 1, 2024, the sheriff
31 shall certify to the county commission each employee who has
32 engaged in hazardous duty, and an amount sufficient to pay an
33 equal amount to each employee shall be disbursed from the
34 Hazardous Duty Fund.

35 (2) At any time after the first disbursement of
36 hazardous duty pay by the county commission, the commission
37 and the sheriff may make hazardous duty payments annually, or
38 may determine to make such payments at semi-annual, quarterly,
39 or monthly intervals as they agree circumstances warrant.

40 Section 2. Section 1 of this act shall become operative
41 only if approved by a majority of the qualified electors of
42 Blount County who vote in an election to be held on the day
43 designated by the Judge of Probate of Blount County. The
44 notice of the election shall be given by the judge of probate,
45 and the election shall be held, conducted, and the results
46 canvassed in the same manner as other county elections. The
47 election shall be held in conjunction with the next regularly
48 scheduled election to be held in the county. The question
49 shall be, "Do you favor the adoption of Act No.____, of the
50 2023 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature, to provide
51 hazardous duty pay to the nonclerical employees of the Blount
52 County Sheriff's Office, excluding the Sheriff, by issuing a
53 new court cost in Blount County of no more than twenty-five
54 dollars (\$25)? Yes () No ()." The county shall pay any costs
55 and expenses not otherwise reimbursed by a governmental agency
56 which are incidental to the election. If a majority of the



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57 votes cast in the election are "Yes," Section 1 of this act
58 shall become operative immediately. If the majority of the
59 votes are "No," this act shall be repealed and shall have no
60 further effect. The Judge of Probate of Blount County shall
61 certify the results of the election to the Secretary of State.

62 Section 3. This act shall become effective immediately
63 following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its
64 otherwise becoming law.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 13-Apr-23.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate **27-Apr-23**

Passed