PRINTER'S NO. 568

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 558 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, SOLOBAY, FONTANA, RAFFERTY, ERICKSON, BOSCOLA, BREWSTER AND ALLOWAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011

AN ACT

Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, imposing a district attorney justice fee for convictions.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 1111. District attorney justice fee.

(a) General rule.--Unless the court finds that undue hardship would result, a mandatory fee equal to $20, which shall be in addition to any other costs imposed by law, shall automatically be assessed on any individual convicted of or granted Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition for or any individual who pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, this title or 75 Pa.C.S. Ch. 38 (relating to driving after imbibing alcohol or utilizing drugs).

(b) District attorney justice fund.--The fee shall be deposited into a special fund in each county to be known as the district attorney justice fund. No more than 10% of the fee collected may be retained by the county for its administrative costs related to collecting the fee for deposit into the county's district attorney justice fund. Ten percent of the fee collected shall be used by the county to fund court operations.

(c) Primary use.--The funds in each county's district attorney justice fund are appropriated on a continuing basis to the county district attorney. The district attorney shall make available moneys from the district attorney justice fund for law enforcement agencies for the purpose of providing criminal justice enhancements of local criminal justice system policies, work processes and information sharing and distribution which may include any of the following:

(1) Homeland security activities.

(2) Victim and witness services.

(3) Information sharing between law enforcement agencies.

(4) Criminal justice process improvements.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.