

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 628

By: Senators Gilmore, B. Davis

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING COURT TRANSCRIPT FEES; TO INCREASE THE TRANSCRIPT FEES TO WHICH A COURT REPORTER IS ENTITLED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING COURT TRANSCRIPT FEES; AND TO INCREASE THE TRANSCRIPT FEES TO WHICH A COURT REPORTER IS ENTITLED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-13-506 is amended to read as follows:  
16-13-506. Court reporters – Transcript fees.

(a)(1) When required to make a transcript of court proceedings, each court reporter of the circuit courts shall be entitled to compensation at the rate of ~~four dollars and ten cents (\$4.10)~~ eight dollars (\$8.00) per page for the original and two (2) copies and at the rate of ~~fifty cents (50¢)~~ one dollar (\$1.00) per page for each additional copy.

(2) When required to prepare photocopied evidence as part of a transcript, each court reporter shall be entitled to compensation at the rate of ~~one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50)~~ two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per page for an original and two (2) copies and at the rate of ~~fifty cents (50¢)~~ one dollar (\$1.00) per page for each additional copy thereafter, with the cost to be paid by the parties ordering transcripts.

(3) ~~The circuit court judge in which the court proceeding occurred is exempt from this section~~ The official court reporter for a



circuit judge who maintains a criminal docket is entitled to one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the compensation provided in subdivisions (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section when producing a record of criminal proceedings for the circuit judge.

(4)(A) If the circuit court judge utilized a substitute official court reporter under § 16-13-509 for a court proceeding that the circuit court judge later determines requires a transcript, the substitute official court reporter shall receive additional compensation for producing the transcript for the circuit court judge.

(B) The Trial Employees Committee of the Arkansas Judicial Council, Inc., shall develop a policy that shall be implemented by the Administrative Office of the Courts to ensure fair compensation for a substitute official court reporter who is required to produce a transcript for a circuit court judge.

(b)(1)(A) In indigent and in forma pauperis proceedings, the compensation to the court reporter for transcripts provided for in subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the State of Arkansas.

(B) ~~However, in~~ In such proceedings, the court reporters shall be entitled to compensation from the state only for the original and two (2) copies of the transcript.

(C) If additional persons request copies of the transcript, the court reporter shall be entitled to payment from the persons requesting the copies at the rate specified in subsection (a) of this section.

(2) The payments from the state shall be made only upon certification of the payments by the presiding circuit judge and shall be paid by the Administrative Office of the Courts from funds appropriated out of the Court Reporter's Fund.

(c) When the state is required to pay the court reporter for the cost of the preparation of a transcript, § 16-13-510 applies and the state shall comply with a court reporter's request for the payment of a deposit under § 16-13-510(c)(1).