

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB651**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday February 05, 2015  
**Committee On:** Judiciary  
**Introducer:** Bloomfield  
**One Liner:** Change liability for certain court costs as prescribed

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Indefinitely postponed

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Chambers, Coash, Ebke, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Seiler, Williams

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

SEN. DAVE BLOOMFIELD  
BETH BAZYN FARRELL  
JACK CHELOHA

**Representing:**

INTRODUCER  
NACO  
CITY OF OMAHA

**Opponents:**

COREY STEEL  
BILL MUELLER

**Representing:**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS  
NE STATE BAR

**Neutral:**

JANET WIECHELMAN

**Representing:**

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT ASSN

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB651 would amend 29-2704 to allow a county court judge to waive court fees in certain cases.

Currently, when a county judge finds that the fees in a misdemeanor, traffic, felony preliminary, or juvenile case in county court are uncollectible, most court costs can be waived. However, certain fees cannot be waived by the judge, and must be paid by the county.

Section 2 of LB651 would amend 29-2709 to eliminate the fees that cannot be waived by the county judge. This section also eliminates the process for requiring the county board to pay for uncollectible court costs.

**Fees affected:**

- Costs in 24-703(3): retirement fund for judges (\$6)
  - \$2 of the fee provided in 33-107.01: legal services fee (\$5.25) - Legal Aid
  - 33-107.03: Court automation fee
  - 47-633: Uniform data analysis fee
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