

Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT
4.30.20

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LLS NO. 20-1237.01 Conrad Imel x2313

COMMITTEE BILL

Joint Budget Committee

BILL TOPIC: "Funding For Eviction Legal Defense Fund"

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING FUNDING THE EVICTION LEGAL DEFENSE FUND.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

Joint Budget Committee. The bill assesses an additional \$30 fee on a person who commences a forcible entry and detainer action. The full amount of the fee is deposited into the eviction legal defense fund (fund). The bill makes the state court administrator's requirement to award grants from the fund subject to available appropriations.

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-32-101, **add**
3 (3)(d) as follows:

4 **13-32-101. Docket fees in civil actions - judicial stabilization**
5 **cash fund - justice center cash fund - justice center maintenance fund**
6 **- created - legislative declaration - report.** (3) (d) ON AND AFTER JULY
7 1, 2020, AT THE TIME OF FILING A COMPLAINT TO COMMENCE AN ACTION
8 PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-40-110, THE PETITIONER SHALL PAY A FEE OF
9 THIRTY DOLLARS IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER FEE REQUIRED BY LAW. THE
10 FEE COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d) MUST BE
11 TRANSMITTED TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL DEPOSIT IT IN THE
12 EVICTION LEGAL DEFENSE FUND ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 13-40-127.

13 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-40-127, **amend**
14 (2) and (3) introductory portion as follows:

15 **13-40-127. Eviction legal assistance - fund - rules - report -**
16 **definitions.** (2) There is established in the state treasury the eviction
17 legal defense fund. THE FUND CONSISTS OF FEES COLLECTED PURSUANT TO
18 SECTION 13-32-101 (3)(d) AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND. Pursuant to
20 subsection (3) of this section, the state court administrator is authorized
21 to make grants from the fund to qualifying organizations providing civil
22 legal services to indigent residents of the state of Colorado.

23 (3) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, the administrator
24 shall award grants from the fund to qualifying organizations to provide
25 legal advice, counseling, and representation for, and on behalf of,
26 indigent clients who are experiencing an eviction or are at immediate risk
27 of an eviction. Money from the fund may be used for services that

1 include:

2 **SECTION 3. Effective date.** This act takes effect July 1, 2020.

3 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
4 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.