CCOC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 22, 2021
Meeting: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM
WebEx Registration Link: [Link]
Meeting Code: 180 192 9172, Password: CCOC
Conference Call: 1-866-469-3239; Access Code: 180 192 9172

The Duties of the Corporation shall include: “Recommending to the Legislature changes in the amounts of the various court-related fines, fees, service charges, and costs established by law to ensure reasonable and adequate funding of the clerks of the court in the performance of their court-related functions.” Section 28.35(2)(c), F.S.

1) Call to Order and Introduction.........................................................Hon. Carolyn Timmann
2) Approve Agenda ............................................................................Hon. Carolyn Timmann
3) Approve Minutes of October 10, 2019 Meeting.........................Jason L. Welty
4) CCOC Legislative Budget Request ............................................Hon. Carolyn Timmann
5) Juror Management Funding.........................................................Hon. Angela Vick
6) Bill Analysis Process .................................................................Jason L. Welty
7) Priority Legislation......................................................................Jason L. Welty
8) Other Business...............................................................................Hon. Carolyn Timmann

Committee Members: Honorable Carolyn Timmann, Chair; Honorable Joseph Abruzzo; Honorable Barry Baker; Honorable Tom Bexley; Honorable Doug Chorvat, Jr.; Honorable Gary J. Cooney, Esq.; Honorable Tara S. Green; Honorable Crystal Kinzel; Honorable Kevin Madok, CPA; Honorable Gwendolyn Marshall; Honorable Laura Roth, Esq.; Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Esq.; Honorable Donald Spencer, and Honorable Angela Vick

CCOC meetings are recorded to assist with accurate meeting minutes.
Minutes of October 10, CCOC Legislative Committee Meeting

Committee Action: Review and approve with amendments as necessary.

The Legislative Committee of the Clerk of Courts Operation Corporation (CCOC) held a meeting via WebEx on October 10, 2019. CCOC distributed the agenda and materials in advance of the meeting and posted them on the CCOC website. Provided below is a summary of staff notes from the meeting. These staff notes document committee action and are not a full record of committee discussions. All motions adopted by the committee are in bold text, and all CCOC staff action items based on committee direction are in red and bold text.

1. Agenda Item 1 – Call to order and Roll Call
   
   Clerk Timmann, Chair of the Legislative Committee, called the meeting to order. Jason Welty, CCOC Budget and Communications Director, called the roll.
   
   Present for the meeting: Honorable Clerk Timmann, Clerk Bexley, Clerk Chorvat, Clerk Cooney, Clerk Green, Clerk Kinsaul, Clerk Mattox, Clerk Marshall, Clerk Roth, Clerk Ruvin, Clerk Vick
   
   Absent from the meeting: Honorable Clerk Conrad and Clerk Spencer

2. Agenda Item 2 – Introduction and Agenda Approval
   
   Clerk Timmann thanked everyone for their presence. She expressed her appreciation for everyone’s attendance and support.
   
   Clerk Vick motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Clerk Marshall. Hearing no objections, the committee adopted the motion.

3. Agenda Item 3 – Approve Minutes from September 26, 2018 Meeting
   
   The minutes from the last meeting on September 26, 2018, were presented for approval.
   
   Clerk Chorvat motioned to adopt the minutes from the September 26, 2018 meeting, seconded by Clerk Vick. Hearing no objections, the committee adopted the motion.
4. Agenda Item 4 – Florida Sunshine Law Review

Clerk Timmann asked Jason Welty to review this agenda item. Mr. Welty explained that he included this for new clerks and let everyone know that they can reference the meeting packet for information. Clerk Timmann asked for any questions or concerns about this agenda item. There were none.

5. Agenda Item 5 – REC Funding Continuity Plan

Clerk Timmann explained that the Revenue Enhancement Committee (REC) provides one of CCOC's statutory duties to make recommendations for adequate funding for the clerks. The REC Funding Continuity Plan is the main reason for this meeting. Clerk Timmann acknowledged Clerk Tiffany Moore Russell and the REC Committee's arduous work on the Funding Continuity Plan and asked Mr. Welty to explain the contents of the plan.

Mr. Welty referenced page 27 of the packet, including a memo with contents of the Funding Continuity Plan, explaining that much of the content in this year's plan is from many suggestions given over the last two years. Mr. Welty went over each item in the REC funding plan. Clerk Timmann thanked Mr. Welty and asked for questions.

Clerk Vick thanked Mr. Welty and congratulated him on a fantastic job. Clerk Vick asked for statistics supporting the calculated reimbursement costs identified in the plan. Mr. Welty explained that the estimates presented were from CFY 2017-18. Clerk Vick asked if CCOC would recalculate this information with more recent data. Mr. Welty let her know that he would update the numbers.

Clerk Vick wanted to confirm that this form would become the template for plans with the Legislature. Clerk Timmann clarified that this plan does not necessarily transfer over to the Legislature but helps the committee identify the statutory requirements. Clerk Timmann explained that this plan is not a part of the legislative agenda for this year, but the clerk's legislative team would use the numbers provided as a resource.

Clerk Vick stated that the stabilization fund is a great idea. Clerk Vick asked Mr. Welty if there is a recommended percentage maintained in the stabilization fund. Mr. Welty explained that the REC members discussed creating a stabilization fund, not necessarily its implementation.

Clerk Frank referenced an item in Article V funding, allowing offices to collect fines for offices' operation. Clerk Ruvin asked if this meeting was at all for any legislative initiatives for the upcoming session. Clerk Timmann replied that it is not directly related to the clerks' legislative priorities.
Clerk Vick asked when the next meeting will occur and about the next step in moving these recommendations forward. Clerk Timmann explained that the first step was going over the plan, and the second step would be to present it to the Executive Council. Clerk Timmann stated that she would like Clerk Moore Russell to have an opportunity to discuss the plan before using the information or submitting it to the Legislature.

There were no other questions.

**Clerk Vick motioned to approve the REC Funding Continuity Plan. Clerk Green seconded the motion. Hearing no objection, the committee adopted the motion.**

6. **Agenda Item 6 – Bill Analysis Process**

   Clerk Timmann stated that this process is vital in the committee's work. Clerk Timmann asked Mr. Welty to go over this process for this year. Mr. Welty explained that, on average, CCOC receives over 40 fiscal analyses from the Legislature. By formally analyzing bills and submitting them to the Legislature, clerks would have a more significant opportunity to influence pending legislation. Mr. Welty explained the procedure listed in the meeting packet.

   Clerk Timmann thanked Mr. Welty and reviewed the benefits of the analysis process. Clerk Timmann encouraged clerks to participate in the analysis process. Clerk Timmann asked if there were any questions.

   Clerk Vick thanked everyone at CCOC for working so hard on this bill analysis process. Clerk Timmann agreed.

   There were no questions.

7. **Agenda Item 7 – Other Business**

   There was no other business. The meeting adjourned.
AGENDA ITEM 4

DATE: January 22, 2021
SUBJECT: CCOC Legislative Budget Request
COMMITTEE ACTION: Discussion

OVERVIEW: The past two sessions, CCOC and the Legislative Committee, chaired by Clerk Carolyn Timmann, worked closely with the FCCC Legislative Committee, chaired by Clerk Tom Bexley, on the legislative priorities for the clerks. During the 2019 Session, FCCC advocated for the Clerks Serve Florida Act, which included many structural changes to the budgeting development for the clerks. The Legislature accepted many of these ideas, which resulted in an additional $15.8 million for the clerks’ CFY 2019-20 budgets. In the 2020 Session, FCCC advocated for efficiencies in the clerk processes with a glitch bill and a bill for the juror management payment process.

This year, the FCCC team will continue to advocate for the clerk efficiencies and is expanding the advocacy to include additional budget related issues under the banner of the At Your Service 2021 Legislative Priorities. CCOC continues to be involved in the advocacy of these clerk priorities, as the changes made in the Service Stabilization bill will bring needed consistency to the clerk budgeting process. CCOC is proud to work with FCCC, and thankful for the continued partnership to advocate for those issues to help the clerks succeed.

In addition to the policy proposals advocated by FCCC, CCOC staff recommends the Legislative Committee discuss advancing a budget proposal. This proposal would stand apart from the policy ideas advanced by the Association. This point is important because with a budget deficit of $3.3 billion over the next two years, legislative policy proposals with a recurring fiscal impact have little chance of success during this year’s session.

The clerks do not have a traditional entry point into the state’s budget. Therefore, a legislative budget request will likely have to come up through requests from individual members in the House and Senate. Once the committee decides the course of action, CCOC staff will work with each chamber to secure sponsors and will advocate the budget issue throughout session.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Discussion and Committee Action

LEAD STAFF: Jason Welty, CCOC Budget and Communications Director
AGENDA ITEM 5

DATE: January 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Juror Management Funding
COMMITTEE ACTION: Discussion and Committee Action

OVERVIEW: In July 2016, the Legislature provided clerks with $11.7 million in recurring General Revenue to cover juror management costs. The state fiscal year begins in July. This year, through the first three quarters, clerks received $6.3 million for juror management expenses. The third quarter request (Jan-Mar) was more than the two previous quarters, as jury trials cautiously resumed throughout most of the state. However, with the pandemic's winter resurgence, several courts temporarily halted in-person jury trials at least through the end of January.

In CFYs 2017-18 and 2018-19, clerks spent $12.1 million and $12.3 million on juror management. Juror management covers the cost of personnel, summons, juror payments, meals, and lodging for jurors. Last year, as in the previous two fiscal years, clerks were spending more per quarter than receiving from JAC before the effects of COVID-19 reshaped all government entities' spending patterns. CCOC estimates the juror management costs in a typical year are roughly $12.2 million; however, with the delay in jury trials during 2019-20, it is unlikely clerks will expend the full appropriation during SFY 2020-21.

Most courts reopened in the fall of 2020, and there was an uptick in expenditures during the Oct-Dec quarter. With this uptick, clerks submitted an estimate for the Jan-Mar quarter ($2.8 million), which is more than the previous quarters. Assuming the effectiveness of the vaccine and courts begin addressing the backlog of cases that need a jury trial, CCOC estimates the fourth quarter (April – June) juror management funding request to be $3 million. If the estimate is accurate, $2.4 million of the original $11.7 million General Revenue appropriation for SFY 2020-21 will revert to the nonrecurring portion of the General Revenue Fund.

Staff recommends the Legislative Committee discuss ideas relating to the potential unallocated General Revenue funds for juror management and provide direction to CCOC staff.

Potential Options
1. Ask the Legislature to revert the funds and appropriate them for the same purpose
2. Ask JAC and the Legislature to allow clerks to use these funds for technology
3. Ask the Legislature to revert the funds and allow for the use of other court-related duties
4. Combination of ideas / Other ideas

COMMITTEE ACTION: Discussion and Committee Action

LEAD STAFF: Jason Welty, CCOC Budget and Communications Director
### Jury Funding

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### Six Percent Holdback Calculation

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<td>Original Appropriation</td>
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**CCOC Estimated 4th Quarter Request**
AGENDA ITEM 6

DATE: January 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Bill Analysis Process
COMMITTEE ACTION: Information Only

OVERVIEW:
Each year, CCOC receives, on average, over 40 fiscal impact bill analysis requests from the Legislature. Also, CCOC provides fiscal impacts for clerk funding bills and other legislation deemed of interest to clerks. CCOC is responsive to all legislative requests and communicates and coordinates with the FCCC Legislative & Policy Affairs team.

The Process:
- CCOC receives a request for a bill analysis (direct from Legislature, through communication with the FCCC, or by clerks’ request)
- CCOC begins tracking the legislation
- Jason L. Welty emails a copy of the bill and a summary to the Legislative Analysis Team and the Legislative Committee for input on the fiscal impact
- As clerks respond to analysis requests, CCOC prepares a draft analysis for review
- CCOC sends draft analyses to Chair Timmann for review
- Chair Timmann coordinates communication and receives input from the FCCC Legislative Team
- CCOC submits the fiscal analysis to the Legislature via the Agency Bill Analysis Request (ABAR) website

Analysis Tips:
- Provide a little background of the current process
- Identify confusing language
  - For instance, is an “electronic option for payment” an online payment option or that a clerk will accept electronic payment, such as a credit card or ACH?
- Explain how the new process in the bill is different from the current process and be specific
- Provide empirical data, if possible
- If something will require additional FTE, provide the position type or level (entry-level clerk or a supervisory clerk.) and your average salary and benefits of that position.
- Be realistic

COMMITTEE ACTION: Information Only

LEAD STAFF: Jason Welty, CCOC Budget and Communications Director
AGENDA ITEM 7

DATE: January 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Priority Legislation
COMMITTEE ACTION: Information Only

OVERVIEW:
CCOC staff reviews legislation for impact on the court-related functions. Through the FCCC Legislative & Public Affairs team's help, CCOC categorizes bills into categories, Priorities, Requested Analyses, Impact, and Monitor.

CCOC will provide periodic updates on legislation throughout committee weeks and through the duration of the Legislative Session. We will code these bills with the following codes:

- "M" (Monitor) – These bills amend a section of law referencing clerks but may not impact the clerks' court-related duties or may only require minor modifications to the clerks' processes;
- "I" (Impact) – These bills have an impact on clerks. For example, an "I" bill may change the Florida Retirement System's annual employer contribution rates. CCOC will often ask for an analysis on these bills even if not requested by the Legislature;
- "RA" (Requested Analysis) – These are bills that are either requested explicitly through the Agency Bill Analysis Request (ABAR) website or via legislative staff; and,
- "P" (Priority) – Priority bills are clerk approved legislative agenda bills or other legislation that may significantly impact the clerks' budget.

Please keep in mind, as the statewide budget office, CCOC focuses mostly on the fiscal impacts to the clerks, especially on the court-related operations. You may also receive requests for information from the FCCC Legislative & Public Affairs Team, as they focus on the entire clerks' office's policy aspects. For instance, CCOC will likely not send public records bills to you, as these bills do not impact the court-related operations until they are incorporated into the Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.420. However, since public records bills also impact your official records, FCCC may send you these bills for your review.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Information Only

LEAD STAFF: Jason Welty, CCOC Budget and Communications Director

ATTACHMENTS:
1) Priority Legislation List
HB 0031  Clerks of the Court by Clemons

Clerks of the Court: Requires certain service charges to be distributed in specified manner; specifies amount of charges for certain services rendered & instruments that are not court records; revises distribution of revenue from filing fees at start of certain appellate proceedings; requires clerks of court to submit requests for reimbursement for jury-related costs to Clerks of Court Operations Corporation; requires corporation to submit certain information to JAC & to submit request for payment to CFO; removes provision authorizing commission to apportion funds among counties for certain purposes. Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Committees of Reference

House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee (Current Reference)
House Judiciary Committee
House Appropriations Committee

Actions

01/15/2021  HOUSE Now in Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

Identical

SB 0382  Clerks of the Court (Hooper)

01/11/2021  SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

SB 0356  Fines And Fees by Jones

Fines and Fees; Revising the methods by which clerks of the circuit courts must accept payments for certain fees, charges, costs, and fines; providing requirements for entering into payment plans; authorizing a court to waive, modify, and convert certain fines and fees into community service under specified circumstances; requiring that a notification form and the uniform traffic citation include certain information about paying a civil penalty; authorizing certain persons to apply for reinstatement of their suspended driver licenses under certain circumstances, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2021

Committees of Reference

Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
Senate Appropriations

Actions

01/11/2021  SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

Compare

SB 0298  Electronic Payment of Governmental Fees (Taddeo)

01/11/2021  SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

Similar
SB 0386 Payments to Clerks of the Circuit Courts (Wright)

01/11/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

1- Priority

Priority / Importance / Position

| No priority | No importance | No position |

Public Comments

12/21/20 - Added to SP - Fines and Fees bill from 2020. 1/4/21 - ABAR Request

SB 0382 Clerks of the Court by Hooper

Clerks of the Court: Specifying the amount of charges for certain services rendered by, and instruments filed with, the clerk of the circuit court which are not court records; revising the distribution of revenue from filing fees from the institution of certain appellate proceedings; requiring the clerks of the court to submit requests for reimbursement for jury-related costs to the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation within specified timeframes, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2021

Committees of Reference

Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
Senate Appropriations

Actions

01/11/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

Identical

HB 0031 Clerks of the Court (Clemons)

01/15/2021 HOUSE Now in Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

1- Priority

Priority / Importance / Position

| Top priority | High importance | Support position |

Public Comments

12/31/20 - JLW Completed bill analysis based on 2020 analysis 1/4/21 - ABARs Request

SB 0386 Payments to Clerks of the Circuit Courts by Wright

Payments to Clerks of the Circuit Courts; Providing procedures for payment plans; revising the methods by which clerks of the circuit courts must accept payments for certain fees, charges, costs, and fines; requiring the clerks of court, in consultation with the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation, to develop a uniform payment plan form by a specified date; requiring that a notification form and the uniform traffic citation include certain information about paying a civil penalty, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2021

Committees of Reference

Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
Senate Appropriations

Actions

01/11/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

Compare
SB 0298  Electronic Payment of Governmental Fees (Taddeo)
01/11/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

Similar
SB 0356  Fines And Fees (Jones)
01/11/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

1- Priority  Priority / Importance / Position
no priority  no importance  no position

Public Comments
1/1/21 - Added to SP Folder - Fines and Fee bill from 2020 - likely a significant fiscal impact - Reevaluate Bill Analysis. 1/4/21 - ABARs Request 1/22/21 - Sent to LC/LAT

SB 0442  Juror Service by Bracy
Juror Service; Revising the rate of compensation for jurors; prohibiting the use of peremptory challenges to strike prospective jurors in criminal jury trials that commence on or after a specified date; requesting the Florida Supreme Court to amend Rule 1.431(d), Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, to prohibit the use of peremptory challenges in jury selection for civil jury trials, etc. Effective Date: 10/1/2021

Committees of Reference
Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
Senate Criminal Justice
Senate Appropriations

Actions
01/15/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Criminal Justice; Appropriations

1- Priority  Priority / Importance / Position
no priority  no importance  no position

Public Comments
1/10/21 - Added to Priority folder - modifies juror payments - Priority because of intersection with Clerk Priority bills HB 31 / SB 382 1/11/21 - ABARs Request 1/22/21 - Sent to LC/LAT

SB 0492  Council on the Discretionary Imposition of Criminal Justice and Traffic Fines and Fees by Rouson
Council on the Discretionary Imposition of Criminal Justice and Traffic Fines and Fees; Establishing the council adjunct to the Department of Legal Affairs; requiring the department to provide administrative support to the council; specifying application of law governing advisory bodies; prescribing the composition of the council; providing duties of the council; providing for future repeal, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2021

Committees of Reference
Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
Senate Appropriations

Actions
01/15/2021 SENATE Referred to Judiciary; Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice; Appropriations

1- Priority  Priority / Importance / Position
no priority  no importance  no position
### SB 0298

**Electronic Payment of Governmental Fees** by Taddeo

Electronic Payment of Governmental Fees; Requiring clerks of the circuit court to provide an electronic option for payment of court-related fines and other fees; requiring an agency subject to ch. 119, F.S., to provide an electronic option for payment of fees associated with a public records request, etc. Effective Date: 1/1/2022

#### Committees of Reference

- Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
- Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
- Senate Appropriations

#### Actions

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#### Public Comments

- 12/21/20 - Added to Tracker - ABAR Request - requires electronic payment options for fees 1/22/21 - Sent to LC/LAT for analysis

### SB 0354

**Restitution** by Harrell

Restitution; Specifying that courts are not bound by fair market value in determining restitution amounts; authorizing courts to exercise discretion in furthering the purposes of restitution, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2021

#### Committees of Reference

- Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
- Senate Criminal Justice
- Senate Rules

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#### Public Comments

- 1/4/21 - Added to Analysis Folder - ABARS request - discretion on restitution 1/22/21 - Sent to LC/LAT
Public Notice and Voting Rights Restoration Database

SB 0402

Public Notice and Voting Rights Restoration Database; Authorizing legal notifications in certain cases to be published on a website established by the Supreme Court, in lieu of newspaper publication; specifying that website publication constitutes proof of publication, unless otherwise determined by a court; authorizing a county to publish such legal notifications in a newspaper, subject to certain limitations, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2021

Committees of Reference

Senate Judiciary (Current Reference)
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice
Senate Appropriations

Actions

01/15/2021  SENATE On Committee agenda - Judiciary, 01/25/21, 2:30 pm, 412 K

2- Analysis

Priority / Importance / Position

Public Comments

1/15/21 - Request from committee staff - Legal Notices and Voting Rights Restoration Database 1/15/21 - Sent to LC/LAT 1/22/21 - Due to CCOC 1/23/21 - Due to Committee Staff

Traffic Infraction Detectors

HB 6009

Traffic Infraction Detectors: Repeals provisions relating to Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program & authorization to use traffic infraction detectors; repeals provisions relating to distribution of penalties, transitional implementation, & placement & installation; conforms cross-references & provisions to changes made by act. Effective Date: July 1, 2024

Committees of Reference

House Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee (Current Reference)
House Appropriations Committee
House Commerce Committee

Actions

01/15/2021  HOUSE Now in Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee

2- Analysis

Priority / Importance / Position

Public Comments

12/10/20 - Added to Analysis Folder - Eliminates Red Light Cameras - Potential Fiscal Impact 1/22/21 - Sent to LC/LAT