

Enrolled No. R160-033

RESOLUTION



OCT 25 2016 No. 16-17/051

REQUESTING THAT CIRCUIT JUDGES BE GIVEN DISCRETION REGARDING ADDING THE DNA SURCHARGE TO EACH AND EVERY COUNT IN CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS OF CONVICTION

WHEREAS, the collection of DNA is a valuable tool in investigating, prosecuting and solving crimes;

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 973.046(1r) mandates the addition of the DNA surcharge, as an item of court costs, for each and every count for which a defendant is convicted; and

WHEREAS, the surcharge is \$200 for misdemeanors and \$250 for felonies and the total court costs for each misdemeanor count are \$443 and for each felony count are \$518; and

WHEREAS, adding the DNA surcharge to each and every count in a criminal conviction can add a substantial financial burden on those persons convicted, who in many cases are already financially disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, allowing the Circuit Court Judges handling cases to utilize their discretion based on the facts of each particular case to determine the number of counts the DNA surcharge should be added to ensures justice will be done in each case.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors that circuit court judges be given the discretion to decide whether the DNA surcharge be added to each and every count in criminal judgments of conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors directs the county clerk to forward this resolution to the governor, assembly members and senators representing Eau Claire County and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

ADOPTED: October 18, 2016

STATE OF WISCONSIN

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COUNTY OF EAU CLAIRE

I, Janet K. Loomis, County Clerk in and for said county, do HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on October 18, 2016.


Janet K. Loomis
County Clerk