

***Judiciary Committee***

***SB 5253***

***Title:*** *An act relating to increasing civil jury trial fees.*

***Brief Description:*** *Increasing civil jury fees.*

***Sponsors:*** *By Senators McCaslin, Kline, Long, Constantine, Hewitt, Horn, Honeyford and Costa.*

***Brief Summary of Bill***

- *Raises the fee for demanding a jury in a civil trial in district court from \$50 to \$125.*
- *Raises the fee charged against a defendant convicted by a jury in a criminal trial in district court from \$25 to \$125.*

***Hearing Date:*** *3/27/01*

***Staff:*** *Bill Perry (786-7123).*

***Background:***

*A person who requests a jury in a civil trial in district court must pay a "jury demand" fee of \$50. (Juries consist of six persons in district court civil cases. The fee for a six-person civil jury in superior court is \$125.) The local treasurer remits 32 percent of the district court civil jury demand fee to the state for the Public Safety and Education Account (PSEA).*

*A person who is convicted by a jury in a criminal trial in district court is charged a \$25 jury fee. (Juries consist of six persons in district court criminal trials. The fee for a six-person criminal jury in superior court is \$50.) This district court criminal trial jury fee is not subject to the PSEA assessment.*

***Summary of Bill:***

*The district court civil jury demand fee is increased from \$50 to \$125.*

*The district court criminal jury fee is increased from \$25 to \$125.*

***Appropriation:*** *None.*

***Fiscal Note:*** *Available.*

***Effective Date:*** *Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.*