

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 213

Approved by the Governor March 7, 2007

Introduced by Ashford, 20

FOR AN ACT relating to courts; to amend sections 24-514 and 25-2732, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to tape recorders and recording; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 24-514, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

24-514 The State of Nebraska shall pay, with funds appropriated to the Supreme Court, all salaries, benefits, and expenses related to the education and travel of judges and employees of the county courts. The state shall also pay, with funds appropriated to the Supreme Court, the following operational costs of the county courts:

- (1) Computer hardware and software used for data processing;
- (2) Computer hardware and software used for word processing if the costs are incurred on equipment owned by the state;
- (3) Communication line costs arising from data and word processing pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section; and
- (4) ~~Tape~~ Multi-track recorders, microphones, and playback units used to create verbatim records of county court proceedings.

The county shall pay any county court expense not provided for in this section. All property purchased by the county as a county court expense before September 9, 1993, or on or after September 9, 1993, shall remain the property of the county.

Sec. 2. Section 25-2732, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

25-2732 (1) Testimony in all civil and criminal cases in county court shall be preserved by ~~tape recording~~, multi-track recorders, but the court may order the use of a court reporter in any case.

(2) Standards for equipment for ~~tape~~ recording testimony and rules for using such equipment shall be prescribed by the Supreme Court. Such standards shall require that the equipment be capable of multiple-track recording and of instantaneous monitoring by the clerk or other court employee operating the equipment.

(3) The transcription of such testimony, when certified to by the stenographer or court reporter who made it and settled by the court as such, shall constitute the bill of exceptions in the case. The cost of preparing the bill of exceptions shall be paid initially by the party for whom it is prepared.

(4) The procedure for preparation, settlement, signature, allowance, certification, filing, and amendment of a bill of exceptions shall be governed by rules of practice prescribed by the Supreme Court.

Sec. 3. Original sections 24-514 and 25-2732, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.