

ASSEMBLY, No. 3543

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates filing fees for settlement proceedings involving minors.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning filing fees for certain cases and amending
2 N.J.S.22A:2-6.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. N.J.S.22A:2-6 is amended to read as follows:

8 22A:2-6. Upon the filing or entering of the first paper or
9 proceeding in any action or proceeding in the Law Division of the
10 Superior Court, the plaintiff shall pay to the clerk \$200.00 for the
11 first paper filed by him, which shall cover all fees payable therein
12 down to, and including entry of final judgment, taxation of costs,
13 copy of costs and the issuance and recording of final process,
14 except such as may be otherwise provided herein, or provided by
15 law, or the rules of court. Any person filing an answer setting forth
16 a counterclaim or a third party claim in such cause shall pay to the
17 clerk \$200.00 for the first paper filed by him. Any person other than
18 the plaintiff filing any other paper in any such cause shall pay to the
19 clerk \$135.00 for the first paper filed by him.

20 Any person filing a motion in any action or proceeding shall pay
21 to the clerk \$30.00.

22 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, or any otherwise
23 applicable rule of court, there shall be no filing or other court fee in
24 connection with a proceeding in the Law Division of the Superior
25 Court to settle a personal injury matter involving a minor.

26 (cf: P.L.2002, c.34, s.26)

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28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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33 This bill eliminates filing or other court fees for initiating a
34 proceeding in the Law Division of the Superior Court to settle a
35 personal injury matter involving a minor. At present, in personal
36 injury matters, legal action initiated by a parent or guardian prior to
37 the child turning 18 years of age may be settled at a “friendly
38 hearing” where the court examines the settlement proposal agreed
39 to by the parties to determine if the agreement is fair and
40 reasonable; the court may either approve or reject the proposal.
41 This bill would eliminate the fees associated with bringing the
42 matter before the court for consideration.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.