Nay 5, 1971

LEGISLATIVE NOTES ON R.S. 2A:11-15 (Transcript fees in courts)

(1970 amendment)

L. 1970, Chapter 166 - A787
Introduced March 16 by Vreeland, Crane, Habie and others.
Not amended during passage.
Bill has statement (copy enclosed).

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## ASSEMBLY, No. 787

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 1970

By Assemblymen VREELAND, CRANE, MABIE, VOLK, RAYMOND, POLICASTRO, CONWELL, SUMINSKI and COBB

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

An Act concerning transcript fees in the courts and amending section 2A:11-15 of the New Jersey Statutes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
- 2 of New Jersey:
- 1 1. Section 2A:11-15 of the New Jersey Statutes is amended to
- 2 read as follows:
- 3 2A:11-15. (a) When a transcript of the stenographic record in
- 4 any court or in any other proceeding recorded at the direction of the
- 5 Supreme Court is made by a reporter appointed under N. J. S.
- 6 2A:11-11 et seq., at the request of any person, the original and
- 8 \$0.40 for each folio of the original and [\$0.05] \$0.10 for each of the
- 9 copies. If the transcript is furnished to a judge of the court, by his
- 10 order, the reporter shall be paid therefor at the same rates, and such
- 11 fees shall be paid for in the same manner and from the same sources
- 12 as the reporter's salary or per diem fees are paid.
- 13 (b) Except as to transcripts that are to be paid for by the State
- 14 or county, the reporter may require any person requesting a tran-
- 15 script to prepay the estimated fee therefor in advance of delivery
- 16 of the transcript.
- 1 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1970.

## STATEMENT

Under the present statute, transcript fees are extremely low, amounting to an hourly rate of \$2.66. The proposed increase will amount to an hourly rate of \$5.00. The present fees are well below those allowed in neighboring States, and the proposed increase will

help to bring New Jersey into line. Although fees for originals were revised more recently, fees for copies have remained unchanged since 1948. The proposed increase has been approved by the State Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Courts. Low transcript fees have been a significant factor in deterring experienced certified shorthand reporters from seeking appointments as official court reporters, and the proposed increase will make it easier to attack the serious shortage of official court reporters.