

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION**

S.F. No. 2721

(SENATE AUTHORS: LIMMER and Latz)

DATE
02/26/2018

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OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to courts; making the court technology fund permanent; amending

1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 357.021, subdivision 2b.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 357.021, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 2b. **Court technology fund.** (a) In addition to any other filing fee under this

1.7 chapter, the court administrator shall collect a \$2 technology fee on filings made under

1.8 subdivision 2, clauses (1) to (13). The court administrator shall transmit the fee monthly to

1.9 the commissioner of management and budget for deposit in the court technology account

1.10 in the special revenue fund.

1.11 (b) A court technology account is established as a special account in the state treasury

1.12 and funds deposited in the account are appropriated to the Supreme Court for distribution

1.13 of technology funds as provided in paragraph (d). Technology funds may be used for the

1.14 following purposes: acquisition, development, support, maintenance, and upgrades to

1.15 computer systems, equipment and devices, network systems, electronic records, filings and

1.16 payment systems, interactive video teleconferencing, and online services, to be used by the

1.17 state courts and their justice partners.

1.18 (c) The Judicial Council may establish a board consisting of members from the judicial

1.19 branch, prosecutors, public defenders, corrections, and civil legal services to distribute funds

1.20 collected under paragraph (a). The Judicial Council may adopt policies and procedures for

1.21 the operation of the board, including but not limited to policies and procedures governing

1.22 membership terms, removal of members, and the filling of membership vacancies.

2.1 (d) Applications for the expenditure of technology funds shall be accepted from the
2.2 judicial branch, county and city attorney offices, the Board of Public Defense, qualified
2.3 legal services programs as defined under section 480.24, corrections agencies, and part-time
2.4 public defender offices. The applications shall be reviewed by the Judicial Council and, if
2.5 established, the board. In accordance with any recommendations from the board, the Judicial
2.6 Council shall distribute the funds available for this expenditure to selected recipients.

2.7 ~~(e) By January 15, 2015, and by January 15, 2017, the Judicial Council shall submit a~~
2.8 ~~report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate~~
2.9 ~~committees with jurisdiction over judiciary finance providing an accounting on the amounts~~
2.10 ~~collected and expended in the previous biennium, including a list of fund recipients, the~~
2.11 ~~amounts awarded to each recipient, and the technology purpose funded.~~

2.12 ~~(f) This subdivision expires June 30, 2018.~~

2.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.