

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2005**

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**SENATE BILL 575\***

Short Title: Business Court Cases/Fee. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Clodfelter and Stevens.

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Referred to: Judiciary I.

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March 16, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF SPECIAL SUPERIOR  
3 COURT JUDGES TO HEAR COMPLEX BUSINESS CASES AND TO  
4 AUTHORIZE A LARGER FEE FOR THOSE CASES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Article 7 of Chapter 7A of the General Statutes is amended by  
7 adding a new section to read:

8 **"§ 7A-45.3. Superior court judges designated for complex business cases.**

9 The Chief Justice may exercise the authority under rules of practice prescribed  
10 pursuant to G.S. 7A-34 to designate one or more of the special superior court judges  
11 authorized by G.S. 7A-45.1 to hear and decide complex business cases as prescribed by  
12 the rules of practice."

13 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 7A-305(a) reads as rewritten:

14 "(a) In every civil action in the superior or district court, except for actions  
15 brought under Chapter 50B of the General Statutes, the following costs shall be  
16 assessed:

17 (1) For the use of the courtroom and related judicial facilities, the sum of  
18 twelve dollars (\$12.00) in cases heard before a magistrate, and the sum  
19 of sixteen dollars (\$16.00) in district and superior court, to be remitted  
20 to the county in which the judgment is rendered, except that in all  
21 cases in which the judgment is rendered in facilities provided by a  
22 municipality, the facilities fee shall be paid to the municipality. Funds  
23 derived from the facilities fees shall be used in the same manner, for  
24 the same purposes, and subject to the same restrictions, as facilities  
25 fees assessed in criminal actions.

26 (2) For support of the General Court of Justice, the sum of sixty-nine  
27 dollars (\$69.00) in the superior ~~court~~, court except that if a case is  
28 assigned to a special superior court judge as a complex business case  
29 under G.S. 7A-45.3 the sum shall be two hundred sixty-nine dollars

1                   (\$269.00), and the sum of fifty-four dollars (\$54.00) in the district  
2                   court except that if the case is assigned to a magistrate the sum shall be  
3                   forty-three dollars (\$43.00). Sums collected under this subdivision  
4                   shall be remitted to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall remit  
5                   the sum of one dollar and five cents (\$1.05) of each fee collected under  
6                   this subdivision to the North Carolina State Bar for the provision of  
7                   services described in G.S. 7A-474.4, and ninety-five cents (\$.95) of  
8                   each fee collected under this subdivision to the North Carolina State  
9                   Bar for the provision of services described in G.S. 7A-474.19."

10                   **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2006, and applies to fees  
11                   assessed or collected on or after that date.