

HB 157 -- CHANGE OF VENUE FOR CAPITAL CASES

SPONSOR: Veit

This bill creates the "Change of Venue for Capital Cases Fund", which will consist of money appropriated by the General Assembly. Money in the fund is to be used solely for reimbursement to a county that receives a capital case from another county. At the conclusion of a capital case for which the venue was changed from one county to another, the county that received the case may apply to the Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) for reimbursement of any costs associated with sequestering jurors. If a county is eligible for reimbursement, OSCA shall disburse the money to the county. If OSCA determines that a county is not eligible for reimbursement, the county in which the capital case originated shall be responsible for reimbursement.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 1331 (2020).