

1 SENATE BILL 302

2 **57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Shannon D. Pinto and Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
5 and Linda M. López

10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO CHILDREN; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF FILING FEES
12 BY A CHILD, THE FAMILY OF A CHILD OR A PERSON FILING ON BEHALF
13 OF A CHILD IN ANY PROCEEDING UNDER THE CHILDREN'S CODE.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. Section 32A-1-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,
17 Chapter 77, Section 28, as amended) is amended to read:

18 "32A-1-19. COURT COSTS AND EXPENSES.--

19 A. The following expenses shall be a charge upon
20 the funds of the court upon their certification by the court:

21 (1) reasonable compensation for services and
22 related expenses for counsel appointed by the court;

23 (2) reasonable compensation for services and
24 related expenses of a guardian ad litem or a child's attorney
25 appointed by the court; [and]

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(3) the expenses of service of summonses, notices, subpoenas, traveling expenses of witnesses and other like expenses incurred in any proceeding under the Children's Code; and

(4) the expenses of filing fees by a child, the family of a child or a person filing on behalf of a child in any proceeding under the Children's Code.

1 NMSA 1978 to calculate a reasonable payment. If the parents or
2 other legally obligated persons willfully fail or refuse to pay
3 the sum ordered, the court may proceed with contempt charges
4 and the order for payment may be filed and if filed shall have
5 the effect of a civil judgment."

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