- 1 SB36
- 2 188588-1
- 3 By Senator Ward
- 4 RFD: Judiciary
- 5 First Read: 09-JAN-18
- 6 PFD: 01/02/2018

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188588-1:n:10/25/2017:JMH/tj LSA2017-3333

Under existing law, when a complaint is 8 SYNOPSIS: filed in a civil case in the circuit or district 9 10 court, the plaintiff pays a docket fee. Under 11 existing law, if the court finds that payment of 12 the docket fee would constitute a financial 13 hardship, the court may waive the docket fee 14 initially and tax it as costs at the conclusion of 15 the case. Under existing law, for the docket fee to 16 be waived, a verified statement of substantial 17 hardship must be filed with the clerk of court and 18 approved by the court.

19 This bill would specify that the pleading 20 accompanying the statement of substantial hardship shall be considered filed on the date the statement 21 22 of substantial hardship is filed with the court. 23 This bill would also specify that if the court finds that no hardship exists, the party shall have 24 25 30 days to submit payment or the case will be 26 dismissed.

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1	case shall be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. Until such
2	time as the plaintiff pays the docket fee, the court shall
3	stay the proceedings and the summons or other process for
4	service shall not issue."
5	Section 2. This act shall become effective
6	immediately following its passage and approval by the
7	Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.