St. Joseph Council Votes to End Some Court Fees

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP) - The St. Joseph City Council has voted to repeal municipal court fees for failing to appear in court and warrant processing.

The council's vote Monday night was in response to a new state law sparked by the shooting last year of 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson.

The law approved during the last legislative session limits cities' ability to profit from traffic tickets and court fines. Supporters said the law would stop police and court systems from predatory practices designed to generate revenue.

The council's vote will eliminate a \$25 failure to appear fee and a \$50 warrant processing fee.

The St. Joseph News-Press reports some city and court officials complained the law shifts some court costs from defendants to taxpayers.

Associated Press