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H.B. 66
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Merrin

Emily E. Wendel, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Allows restitution to be granted as part of a criminal sentence for accounting and auditing costs the victim incurred to determine the extent of the victim's loss.
- Limits the amount of restitution for accounting or auditing costs to a reasonable amount that does not exceed the value of property or services stolen or damaged as a result of the crime.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

The bill enacts the Theft Victims' Restitution Act to allow a court to order a criminal offender to pay a victim restitution for any cost the victim was required to pay for accounting or auditing done to determine the extent of the victim's economic loss. The amount of any restitution order for accounting or auditing costs must be reasonable and must not exceed the value of the property or services stolen or damaged as a result of the crime.

Under continuing law, a crime victim may receive restitution based on economic loss that was a direct and proximate result of an offense. Currently, "economic loss" means any loss of income due to lost time at work because of injury, and any property loss, medical cost, or funeral expense incurred as a result of the crime. The bill expands the definition of economic loss to include the cost the victim was required to pay for any accounting or auditing done to determine the extent of the victim's loss.¹

¹ R.C. 2929.01(L), 2929.18(A)(1), and 2929.28(A)(1), and Section 4 of the bill.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-12-19
Reported, H. Criminal Justice	03-29-19
Passed House (89-3)	04-11-19
