
HOUSE BILL 2556

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Dunshee, Schmidt, Romero, Ogden, Edwards, Voloria and McIntire

Read first time 01/21/2002. Referred to Committee on Local Government & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to county auditors' fees; amending RCW 36.18.010
2 and 36.22.170; and adding a new section to chapter 36.22 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.18.010 and 1999 c 233 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 County auditors or recording officers shall collect the following
7 fees for their official services:

8 For recording instruments, for the first page eight and one-half by
9 fourteen inches or less, (~~five~~) nine dollars; for each additional
10 page eight and one-half by fourteen inches or less, one dollar. The
11 fee for recording multiple transactions contained in one instrument
12 will be calculated for each transaction requiring separate indexing as
13 required under RCW 65.04.050 as follows: The fee for each title or
14 transaction is the same fee as the first page of any additional
15 recorded document; the fee for additional pages is the same fee as for
16 any additional pages for any recorded document; the fee for the
17 additional pages may be collected only once and may not be collected
18 for each title or transaction;

1 For preparing and certifying copies, for the first page eight and
2 one-half by fourteen inches or less, three dollars; for each additional
3 page eight and one-half by fourteen inches or less, one dollar;

4 ((For preparing noncertified copies, for each page eight and one-
5 half by fourteen inches or less, one dollar;))

6 For administering an oath or taking an affidavit, with or without
7 seal, two dollars;

8 For issuing a marriage license, eight dollars, (this fee includes
9 taking necessary affidavits, filing returns, indexing, and transmittal
10 of a record of the marriage to the state registrar of vital statistics)
11 plus an additional five-dollar fee for use and support of the
12 prevention of child abuse and neglect activities to be transmitted
13 monthly to the state treasurer and deposited in the state general fund
14 plus an additional ten-dollar fee to be transmitted monthly to the
15 state treasurer and deposited in the state general fund. The
16 legislature intends to appropriate an amount at least equal to the
17 revenue generated by this fee for the purposes of the displaced
18 homemaker act, chapter 28B.04 RCW;

19 For searching records per hour, eight dollars;

20 For recording plats, fifty cents for each lot except cemetery plats
21 for which the charge shall be twenty-five cents per lot; also one
22 dollar for each acknowledgment, dedication, and description: PROVIDED,
23 That there shall be a minimum fee of twenty-five dollars per plat;

24 For recording of miscellaneous records not listed above, for the
25 first page eight and one-half by fourteen inches or less, ((five)) nine
26 dollars; for each additional page eight and one-half by fourteen inches
27 or less, one dollar;

28 For ((modernization and improvement of the recording and indexing
29 system)) the document preservation and modernization fund, a surcharge
30 as provided in RCW 36.22.170.

31 For recording an emergency nonstandard document as provided in RCW
32 ((65.04.047)) 65.04.048, fifty dollars, in addition to all other
33 applicable recording fees.

34 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.22.170 and 1993 c 37 s 1 are each amended to read
35 as follows:

36 A surcharge of ((two)) four dollars per instrument shall be charged
37 by the county auditor for each document recorded, which will be in
38 addition to any other charge authorized by law. Fifty percent of the

1 revenue generated through this surcharge shall be transmitted monthly
2 to the state treasurer who shall distribute such funds to each county
3 treasurer within the state in July of each year in accordance with the
4 formula described in RCW 36.22.190. The county treasurer shall place
5 the funds received in a special account titled the ~~((auditor's
6 centennial))~~ document preservation and modernization account ~~((to be
7 used solely for ongoing preservation of historical documents of all
8 county offices and departments and shall not be added to the county
9 current expense fund))~~. Fifty percent of the revenue generated by this
10 surcharge shall be retained by the county and deposited in the
11 ~~((auditor's operation and maintenance fund for ongoing preservation of
12 historical documents of all county offices and departments))~~ document
13 preservation and modernization account.

14 Revenue deposited in this account shall not be added to the county
15 current expense fund.

16 The ~~((centennial))~~ document preservation and modernization account
17 is hereby created in the custody of the state treasurer and shall be
18 classified as a treasury trust account. State distributions from the
19 ~~((centennial))~~ document preservation and modernization account shall be
20 made without appropriation.

21 The document preservation and modernization account shall be used
22 for copying, preserving, and indexing historical records in other
23 county departments and offices as well as for the purposes set forth in
24 RCW 36.22.160.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 36.22 RCW
26 to read as follows:

27 The local government document preservation and modernization
28 committee shall prioritize the expenditure of funds from the document
29 preservation and modernization account and shall submit the
30 prioritization to the county legislative authority for approval with
31 the county budget. The funds appropriated from the document
32 preservation and modernization account shall not be used to supplant
33 existing county operations.

34 The local government document preservation and modernization
35 committee shall be comprised of the county auditor, county assessor,
36 county clerk, county treasurer, and one person appointed by the county

1 legislative authority. The county auditor shall serve as chair of the
2 committee.

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