
SENATE BILL 6745

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Benton, Keiser, B. Sheldon, Poulsen, Winsley, Zarelli, Johnson, Gardner, Hewitt, Prentice, Finkbeiner, Horn, Regala, Rasmussen, Honeyford and Kline

Read first time 01/31/2002. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to death certificates; and amending RCW 70.58.107.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.58.107 and 1997 c 223 s 1 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) The department of health shall charge a fee of thirteen dollars
6 for certified copies of records and for copies or information provided
7 for research, statistical, or administrative purposes, and eight
8 dollars for a search of the files or records when no copy is made. The
9 department shall (~~prescribe by regulation~~) adopt by rule fees to be
10 paid for preparing sealed files and for opening sealed files.

11 (2) No fee may be demanded or required for furnishing certified
12 copies of a birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce, annulment, or
13 legal separation record for use in connection with a claim for
14 compensation or pension pending before the veterans administration.

15 (3) The department shall keep a true and correct account of all
16 fees received and turn the fees over to the state treasurer on a weekly
17 basis.

18 (4) Local registrars shall charge the same fees as the state as
19 (~~hereinabove~~) provided in subsection (1) of this section and as

1 prescribed by the department ((regulation)) by rule, except that local
2 registrars shall charge thirteen dollars for the first copy of a death
3 certificate and eight dollars for each additional copy of the same
4 death certificate when the additional copies are ordered at the same
5 time as the first copy. All such fees collected, except for five
6 dollars of each fee for the issuance of a certified copy, shall be paid
7 to the jurisdictional health department.

8 (5) All local registrars in cities and counties shall keep a true
9 and correct account of all fees received under this section for the
10 issuance of certified copies and shall turn five dollars of the fee
11 over to the state treasurer on or before the first day of January,
12 April, July, and October.

13 (6) Five dollars of each fee imposed for the issuance of certified
14 copies, except for copies suitable for display issued under RCW
15 70.58.085, at both the state and local levels shall be held by the
16 state treasurer in the death investigations' account established by RCW
17 43.79.445.

18 (7) The department and all local registrars in cities and counties
19 must charge a surcharge of one dollar for each fee imposed for
20 certified copies of records and for copies or information provided for
21 research, statistical, or administrative purposes, or for a search of
22 the files or records when no copy is made. All the revenue generated
23 through this surcharge must be transmitted to the state treasurer on or
24 before the first day of January, April, July, and October. The state
25 treasurer must distribute these funds to the department of health's
26 center for health statistics, for the sole purpose of implementing a
27 web-based electronic death certificate registration system. The
28 surcharge imposed under this subsection expires July 1, 2006.

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