
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2348

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By House Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Representatives Moeller and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 04/20/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to surcharges on fee-based activities related to
2 public health; reenacting and amending RCW 70.58.107; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.58.107 and 2007 c 200 s 2 and 2007 c 91 s 2 are
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 The department of health shall charge a fee of twenty dollars for
8 certified copies of records and for copies or information provided for
9 research, statistical, or administrative purposes, and eight dollars
10 for a search of the files or records when no copy is made. The
11 department shall prescribe by regulation fees to be paid for preparing
12 sealed files and for opening sealed files.

13 No fee or surcharge may be demanded or required for furnishing
14 certified copies of a birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce,
15 annulment, or legal separation record for use in connection with a
16 claim for compensation or pension pending before the veterans
17 administration. No fee or surcharge may be demanded or required for
18 furnishing certified copies of a death certificate of a sex offender
19 for use by a law enforcement agency in maintaining a registered sex

1 offender database, or that of any offender requested by a county clerk
2 or court in the state of Washington for purposes of extinguishing the
3 offender's legal financial obligation.

4 The department shall keep a true and correct account of all fees
5 received and transmit the fees to the state treasurer on a weekly
6 basis.

7 Local registrars shall charge the same fees as the state as
8 hereinabove provided and as prescribed by department regulation except
9 in cases where payment is made by credit card, charge card, debit card,
10 smart card, stored value card, federal wire, automatic clearinghouse
11 system, or other electronic communication. Payment by these electronic
12 methods may be subject to an additional fee consistent with the
13 requirements established by RCW 36.29.190. All such fees collected,
14 except for seven dollars of each fee collected for the issuance of
15 birth certificates and first copies of death certificates and fourteen
16 dollars of each fee collected for additional copies of the same death
17 certificate ordered at the same time as the first copy, shall be paid
18 to the jurisdictional health department.

19 All local registrars in cities and counties shall keep a true and
20 correct account of all fees received under this section for the
21 issuance of certified copies and shall transmit seven dollars of the
22 fees collected for birth certificates and first copies of death
23 certificates and fourteen dollars of the fee collected for additional
24 copies of death certificates to the state treasurer on or before the
25 first day of January, April, July, and October. All but five dollars
26 of the fees turned over to the state treasurer by local registrars
27 shall be paid to the department of health for the purpose of developing
28 and maintaining the state vital records systems, including a web-based
29 electronic death registration system.

30 Eight dollars of each fee imposed for the issuance of certified
31 copies, except for copies suitable for display issued under RCW
32 70.58.085, at both the state and local levels shall be held by the
33 state treasurer in the death investigations' account established by RCW
34 43.79.445.

35 A surcharge of eight dollars shall be charged to each transaction
36 related to the purchase of certified copies of birth and death
37 certificates. Amounts received by the department or any local

1 registrar shall be deposited into the public health services account.

2 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act expires June 30, 2011.

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