
HOUSE BILL 2348

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Moeller and Ormsby

Read first time 04/13/09. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to surcharges on fee-based activities related to
2 public health; amending RCW 43.70.110; reenacting and amending RCW
3 70.58.107; and adding a new section to chapter 70.05 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.70.110 and 2007 c 259 s 11 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) The secretary shall charge fees to the licensee for obtaining
8 a license. After June 30, 1995, municipal corporations providing
9 emergency medical care and transportation services pursuant to chapter
10 18.73 RCW shall be exempt from such fees, provided that such other
11 emergency services shall only be charged for their pro rata share of
12 the cost of licensure and inspection, if appropriate. The secretary
13 may waive the fees when, in the discretion of the secretary, the fees
14 would not be in the best interest of public health and safety, or when
15 the fees would be to the financial disadvantage of the state.

16 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, fees
17 charged shall be based on, but shall not exceed, the cost to the
18 department for the licensure of the activity or class of activities and
19 may include costs of necessary inspection.

1 (3) License fees shall include amounts in addition to the cost of
2 licensure activities in the following circumstances:

3 (a) For registered nurses and licensed practical nurses licensed
4 under chapter 18.79 RCW, support of a central nursing resource center
5 as provided in RCW 18.79.202, until June 30, 2013;

6 (b) For all health care providers licensed under RCW 18.130.040,
7 the cost of regulatory activities for retired volunteer medical worker
8 licensees as provided in RCW 18.130.360; (~~and~~)

9 (c) For physicians licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, physician
10 assistants licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW, osteopathic physicians
11 licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW, osteopathic physicians' assistants
12 licensed under chapter 18.57A RCW, naturopaths licensed under chapter
13 18.36A RCW, podiatrists licensed under chapter 18.22 RCW, chiropractors
14 licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW, psychologists licensed under chapter
15 18.83 RCW, registered nurses licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW,
16 optometrists licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW, mental health counselors
17 licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW, massage therapists licensed under
18 chapter 18.108 RCW, clinical social workers licensed under chapter
19 18.225 RCW, and acupuncturists licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW, the
20 license fees shall include up to an additional twenty-five dollars to
21 be transferred by the department to the University of Washington for
22 the purposes of RCW 43.70.112; and

23 (d) For all credentialed health care providers regulated by a
24 disciplining authority identified in RCW 18.130.040, a surcharge must
25 be assessed upon each health care provider credential at an annual rate
26 of seven dollars. Amounts received from the surcharge must be placed
27 in the public health services account established under RCW 43.72.902.
28 Each person subject to this subsection (3)(d) must pay only one
29 surcharge annually, regardless of how many professional licenses he or
30 she holds.

31 (4) Department of health advisory committees may review fees
32 established by the secretary for licenses and comment upon the
33 appropriateness of the level of such fees.

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

36 The department of health shall charge a fee of twenty dollars for
37 certified copies of records and for copies or information provided for

1 research, statistical, or administrative purposes, and eight dollars
2 for a search of the files or records when no copy is made. The
3 department shall prescribe by regulation fees to be paid for preparing
4 sealed files and for opening sealed files.

5 No fee may be demanded or required for furnishing certified copies
6 of a birth, death, fetal death, marriage, divorce, annulment, or legal
7 separation record for use in connection with a claim for compensation
8 or pension pending before the veterans administration. No fee may be
9 demanded or required for furnishing certified copies of a death
10 certificate of a sex offender for use by a law enforcement agency in
11 maintaining a registered sex offender database, or that of any offender
12 requested by a county clerk or court in the state of Washington for
13 purposes of extinguishing the offender's legal financial obligation.

14 The department shall keep a true and correct account of all fees
15 received and transmit the fees to the state treasurer on a weekly
16 basis.

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

29 All local registrars in cities and counties shall keep a true and
30 correct account of all fees received under this section for the
31 issuance of certified copies and shall transmit seven dollars of the
32 fees collected for birth certificates and first copies of death
33 certificates and fourteen dollars of the fee collected for additional
34 copies of death certificates to the state treasurer on or before the
35 first day of January, April, July, and October. All but five dollars
36 of the fees turned over to the state treasurer by local registrars
37 shall be paid to the department of health for the purpose of developing

1 and maintaining the state vital records systems, including a web-based
2 electronic death registration system.

3 Eight dollars of each fee imposed for the issuance of certified
4 copies, except for copies suitable for display issued under RCW
5 70.58.085, at both the state and local levels shall be held by the
6 state treasurer in the death investigations' account established by RCW
7 43.79.445.

8 A surcharge of eight dollars shall be charged to each transaction
9 related to the purchase of certified copies of birth and death
10 certificates. Amounts received by the department or any local
11 registrar shall be deposited into the public health services account.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 70.05 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 In addition to any regular fee for an inspection of a food
15 establishment conducted by the local health jurisdiction, the
16 jurisdiction shall assess an additional surcharge of ten dollars upon
17 the establishment. All receipts from the surcharge must be remitted to
18 the public health services account.

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