

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

SENATE BILL NO. 2392  
(Senators Miller, Krebsbach)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 41-09-96, subsection 1 of section 43-07-10, subdivision e of subsection 1 of section 54-05.1-03, and sections 54-09-04 and 54-09-08 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to secured transaction filing fees, contractor license renewals, lobbyist registration fees, and fees collected by the secretary of state.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 41-09-96 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**41-09-96. (9-525) Fees.**

1. The fee for filing and indexing an original statement under this title, fifteen dollars plus one dollar per additional page. When a nonstandard statement is presented for filing, an additional fee of five dollars must be paid. An additional fee may not be charged for the same statement to gain protection under the central notice system.
2. The fee for filing and indexing an amendment, including continuations, assignments, releases, or correction statements under this title, ten dollars plus one dollar per additional page. An additional fee may not be charged for the same document to gain protection under the central notice system.
3. A fee may not be charged for responding to a request for information from the filing office communicating whether there is on file any financing statement or verified statement naming a particular debtor.
4. The fee for a filing office providing information on specific filings on a particular debtor is seven dollars per debtor for the first five entries, plus two dollars for each additional five entries or fraction thereafter.
5. The fee for a filing office providing copies of each filing for a particular debtor is seven dollars per debtor plus two dollars per page for each page over three pages.
6. The fee for a filing office providing certified copies of filings on a particular debtor is ~~seven~~ ten dollars plus ~~one dollar~~ two dollars per page for attachments.
7. ~~For furnishing copies only of a filed instrument, one dollar per printed page.~~
8. Any fees collected by the secretary of state pursuant to this chapter must be deposited in the general fund in the state treasury, except the fees collected under subsection 6 of section 41-09-94, must be deposited in the secretary of state's general services operating fund.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 43-07-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Any license issued under this chapter may be renewed for each successive fiscal year by obtaining from the registrar a certificate of renewal. To obtain a certificate of renewal, the licensee shall file with the registrar an application, ~~which~~ that includes a listing of each project, contract, or subcontract completed by the licensee during the preceding calendar year in this state over the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars; and the nature of the

work of each project, contract, or subcontract, ~~and, if a performance bond was required, the name and address of the person who issued the bond.~~ The registrar shall within a reasonable time forward a copy of the list to the state tax commissioner. The applicant shall include with the application a copy of a certificate of liability insurance unless the registrar has a current valid certificate of insurance on file, and a certification that the applicant has submitted all payroll taxes, including North Dakota income tax, workforce safety and insurance premiums, and unemployment insurance premiums due at the time of renewal, which documents need not be notarized.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision e of subsection 1 of section 54-05.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- e. The secretary of state shall charge a fee of twenty-five dollars for registering each lobbyist and the first person represented by the lobbyist and an additional fee of ~~five~~ fifteen dollars for each subsequent person represented by the lobbyist.

**SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-09-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**54-09-04. Fees.** The secretary of state, unless otherwise provided by law, shall charge and collect the following fees:

1. For a copy of any law, resolution, record, or other document or paper on file in the secretary of state's office, ~~one dollar for every four pages or fraction thereof~~ fifty cents per page.
2. For affixing the signature of the secretary of state, certificate, or seal, or combination thereof to any document, ten dollars.
3. For filing a certificate of appointment of attorney, five dollars.
4. For searching records and archives of the state, five dollars. For the purposes of this section, a search of records conducted by the secretary of state for which a fee must be collected includes the following:
  - a. A search of a filed document that is active or archived, an archived index, or an index of business name changes to identify specific information to satisfy a request;
  - b. A search of any record for which written verification of the facts of the search is required; and
  - c. For every search of records when the request for the search is contained in a list compiled by the requester. The secretary of state may provide, at no charge, information from publications or reference materials published or maintained by the secretary of state and verbal confirmation of any element of information maintained in a computer data base.
5. For filing any paper not otherwise provided for, ten dollars.
6. For filing utility property transfers, five dollars, and issuing a certificate of filing, five dollars.
7. ~~For sending a copy of a document by electronic transmission, one dollar for each page.~~
8. For filing any process, notice, or demand for service, the fee provided in section 10-01.1-03.
9. 8. For preparing any listing or compilation of any information recorded or filed in the office of the secretary of state, thirty-five dollars plus the actual cost for assembling and providing the information on the medium requested.

An individual required to file an oath of office with the secretary of state may not be charged for filing the oath of office, nor may a state or county officer be charged for filing any document with the secretary of state when acting in the officer's official capacity. All fees when collected must be paid by the secretary of state into the state treasury at the end of each month and placed to the credit of the state. Unless otherwise provided by law, the secretary of state shall retain a handling charge from filing fees tendered when a document submitted to the secretary of state under any law is rejected and not perfected. The handling charge is five dollars or fifty percent of the filing fee, whichever is greater, but may not exceed one hundred dollars.

If, upon due presentment, any check, draft, money order, or other form of lawful payment provisionally accepted in payment of any filing fee authorized to be charged and collected by the secretary of state, is not honored or paid, or if no lawful form of payment accompanies the filing, any record of credit or payment must be canceled or reversed as though no credit had been given or payment attempted and the filing or action is void. The secretary of state may return to the last-known address of the filer any record or document that was attempted to be filed or may retain as unfiled the record or document for a reasonable time to permit proper payment and filing.

This section does not apply to fees submitted for filing in, or information obtained from, the computerized central notice system, to the computerized Uniform Commercial Code central filing data base, or to the computerized statutory liens data base.

**SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-09-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**54-09-08. Secretary of state's general services operating fund.** The secretary of state's general services operating fund is a special fund in the state treasury. Moneys in the fund are to be used pursuant to legislative appropriations for the provision of services under section 16.1-02-15, subsection 6 of section 41-09-94, subsection 9 8 of section 54-09-04, and sections 10-35-33, 54-09-10, and 54-09-11. At the close of each biennium, the secretary of state shall transfer any unobligated balance remaining in the fund exceeding seventy-five thousand dollars to the general fund.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2392.

Senate Vote:    Yeas    42        Nays    3        Absent    2

House Vote:    Yeas    76        Nays    16       Absent    2

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Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009,  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State