

**Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1356  
(Representatives Clark, Haas, Herbel, Koppang, Pollert)  
(Senator Flakoll)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 54-09-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to fees collected by the secretary of state.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-09-04 of the 1997 Supplement to 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.
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 any other document signed by the governor, except a commission, and attested by the secretary of state, five dollars.
5. 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.
6. For filing any paper not otherwise provided for, ten dollars.
7. For filing utility property transfers, five dollars, and issuing a certificate of filing, five dollars.
8. For sending a copy of a document by electronic transmission, one dollar for each page.
9. For filing any process, notice, or demand for service, twenty dollars.
10. 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.

~~No~~ A member of the legislative assembly, ~~and no~~ or a state or county officer may ~~not~~ be charged for any search relative to matters appertaining to duties of office, ~~nor be charged~~ any fee for a certified copy of any law or resolution passed by the legislative assembly relative to the person's official duties, or for filing any process, notice, or demand for service. 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. 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

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

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1356.

House Vote:      Yeas    94      Nays    0      Absent    4

Senate Vote:    Yeas    48      Nays    0      Absent    1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 1999.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 1999.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1999,  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State