

LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENT SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

This memorandum describes the subscription fees for legislative documents during the 2001 legislative session and the costs for printing legislative documents during the 2001 session. The memorandum also lists proposed fees for the 2003 legislative session. Past practice, has been to base subscription fees on the cost of printing the various documents during the previous session, divided by the number of documents printed. The number of subscribers for the particular documents in 2001, the total number of subscribers (some subscribers, e.g., state agencies and representatives of the media, are not charged subscription fees), the 2001 subscription fees, and number and cost of legislative documents printed in 2001 are:

- Thirty-one (out of 68) entities paid \$110 each to pick up a set of bills and resolutions, and one paid \$220 to receive a set by mail. The cost of printing 500 copies of introduced 2001 bills and resolutions was \$60,716.04, or approximately \$121 per set.
- Forty-four (out of 76) entities paid \$200 each to pick up a set of bills and resolutions, which included engrossed bills and resolutions, and two paid \$375 each to receive a set by mail. The cost of printing 100 copies of 2001 engrossed bills and resolutions was \$24,058.69, or approximately \$241 per set.
- Thirty-five (out of 89) entities paid \$55 each to pick up a set of journals, and one paid \$165 to receive a set by mail. The cost of printing 900 copies of the 2001 journals and providing press-board covers was \$62,850, or approximately \$70 per set.
- Twelve (out of 41) entities paid \$25 each to receive the journal index. The cost of printing 227 copies of the 2001 journal index was \$6,708, or approximately \$30 per index.
- Eight (out of 17) entities paid \$305 each to pick up the bill status report, and two paid \$415 to receive it by mail. The cost of printing 45 bill status reports was \$14,520.93, or approximately \$323 each.
- No charge was made for picking up daily calendars (printed at a cost of \$28,075.60), and although 47 subscribed to pick up daily calendars, no entity paid \$55 to receive the calendars by mail.
- No charge was made for picking up committee hearing schedules (printed at a cost of \$11,033.60), and 51 subscribed to pick up hearing schedules, and one entity paid \$30 to receive the schedules by mail.

The legislative document library distribution program consists of sending on a weekly basis, through United Parcel Service, copies of introduced bills and resolutions, daily journals, and bill status reports to

participating libraries. The program was first approved for the 1983 Legislative Assembly for 30 libraries when no other document subscription service was available. The Legislative Assembly absorbs the costs of the program except for the costs of printing the bill status reports delivered to the libraries.

The number of libraries participating in the legislative document library distribution program peaked at 51 in 1989. In 1991 a subscription program was initiated for anyone to obtain a bill status report; and in 1993 a subscription program was initiated for anyone to obtain other legislative documents. Only three libraries--the North Dakota State University Library, the University of North Dakota Thormodsgard Law Library, and the University of North Dakota Chester Fritz Department of Special Collections--participated in the legislative document library distribution program during the 2001 legislative session at a subscription fee of \$305 per library. During the 2001 session, the cost for providing bill status reports to the libraries was \$968.06 and United Parcel Service charges were \$794.23.

PROPOSED 2003 LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENT SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The following is proposed as the 2003 legislative document distribution program and the applicable subscription fees:

- A complete set of bills and resolutions as introduced and printed or reprinted be available from the bill and journal room only after payment of a subscription fee of \$120, with a set to be mailed upon payment of an additional fee of \$110.
- A complete set of bills and resolutions as introduced and printed or reprinted, including a set of all engrossed and reengrossed bills and resolutions, be available from the bill and journal room only after payment of a subscription fee of \$280, with a set to be mailed only after a payment of an additional fee of \$175.
- A complete set of daily journals of the Senate and House be available from the bill and journal room only after payment of a subscription fee of \$70, with a set to be mailed only after an additional fee of \$110.
- The index to the House and Senate journals be available only after payment of a subscription fee of \$30.
- A printed bill status report be available from the bill and journal room only after payment of a subscription fee of \$325, with the report to be mailed only after payment of an additional fee of \$110.
- House and Senate daily calendars and weekly committee hearing schedules be available at no charge if picked up from the bill and journal room, but a set of House and Senate daily

calendars be mailed by the bill and journal room only after payment of a fee of \$55 and a set of weekly committee schedules be mailed by the bill and journal room only after payment of a fee of \$30.

- State agencies and institutions and representatives of the media as determined under Joint Rule 802 be able to obtain copies of bills and resolutions as introduced and printed, daily journals, daily calendars, and committee hearing schedules without payment of subscription fees.
 - Two copies of the bill status report be provided to the press room in the State Capitol without payment of subscription fees.
- No more than five copies of a limited number of bills and resolutions be obtained without charge as provided by Joint Rule 603.

Because all documents available through the library document distribution program are available without charge through Internet access to the Legislative Branch web site, and individual subscriptions to legislative documents are available from the bill and journal room, the recommendation is to discontinue the library document distribution program. If the program is continued, the proposed subscription fee is \$590 to cover the cost of printing the bill status report and United Parcel Service charges for delivering the documents.