

## Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** HB1561

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron** Waddell

**3. Committee** General Laws

**4. Title** Fee for testimonials; international adoptions.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** Requires the Secretary of the Commonwealth to waive additional fees for testimonials, including seal tax, for a person submitting multiple documents for testimonial seals required by a foreign country as part of an international adoption process relating to a particular child or children under the following conditions: the person submitting the documents provides proof to the Secretary (i) of having paid \$200 for testimonials relating to the specific adoption and (ii) that the additional testimonials relate to the same child or children.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** See line 8.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** This bill will reduce the revenue received by the Secretary of Commonwealth's (SOC) office. Exactly how much is indeterminate at this point since the SOC does not track the number of times they authenticate documents for adoptions. Even if they did attempt to track adoptions, the current documents do not clearly identify adoption authentications. However, The SOC does have some rough estimates from FY 2005 data that we can work from. In 2005, the SOC performed 39,139 authentications, which generated \$391,390 in General Fund revenue. They estimate that 70%, or about 27,397, of these pertained to adoptions. The SOC estimates about 50 authentications per adoption, so there are 548 adoptions per year. They also estimate that 30 percent of the authentications come from the same testimonial. Using this information, it is estimated that the SOC's general fund revenue will reduce by roughly \$58,700 per year. This represents 15 percent of the SOC's annual revenue on authentications.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Secretary of the Commonwealth.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 02/10/06 / wfb

**Document:** G:\BOS Stuff\2006 Session\2006 Legislation\HB1561H1.Doc

cc: Secretary of Commonwealth