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## **HOUSE BILL NO. 1845**

Offered January 14, 2009 Prefiled January 12, 2009

A BILL to amend and reenact § 17.1-276 of the Code of Virginia, relating to occasional remote access to land records; fee.

Patron—Lingamfelter

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 17.1-276 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 17.1-276. Fee allowed for providing secure remote access to land records.

A clerk of the circuit court who provides secure remote access to land records pursuant to § 17.1-294 may charge a fee established by the clerk to cover the operational expenses of such electronic access, including, but not limited to, computer support, maintenance, enhancements, upgrades, replacements, and consulting services. AExcept as provided herein, a flat fee may be assessed for each subscriber, as defined in § 17.1-295, in an amount not to exceed \$50 per month. Thewhich fee shall be paid to the clerk's office and deposited by the clerk into a special nonreverting local fund to be used to cover operational expenses of such electronic access, as defined herein. Each clerk shall establish a fee for occasional remote access based on a per image downloaded basis for the general public in an amount not to exceed the fee for copying provided by subdivision A 8 of § 17.1-275. Persons accessing on an occasional basis shall not also be charged the flat fee for subscribers. Persons accessing records in a clerk's office or records room shall not be charged any remote access fee. The circuit court clerk shall enter into an agreement with each person whom the clerk authorizes to have remote access, in accordance with the security standards established by the Virginia Information Technologies Agency.

2. That the Virginia Information Technologies Agency shall, if necessary, amend any previously adopted security standards to allow for access by the general public to the network or system of land records as provided in this Act.