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**SENATE BILL NO. 438**

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 13, 2010

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-273 of the Code of Virginia, relating to vital records; fees.*

Patron—Northam

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 32.1-273 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 32.1-273. Fees for certified copies, searches of files, etc.; disposition.

A. The Board shall prescribe ~~thea~~ fee, ~~not to exceed eight dollars,~~ of twenty dollars for a certified copy of a vital record or for a search of the files or records when no copy is made and may establish a reasonable fee schedule related to its cost for information or other data provided for research, statistical or administrative purposes. *The Board may assess an additional fee of nine dollars plus costs associated with on-line identity verification and any requested expedited mailing for an expedited record search.* Whenever any veteran or his survivor requires a certified copy of a vital record to obtain service-connected benefits, one copy of such record shall be provided directly to the Veterans Administration upon their request. No charge shall be imposed upon a veteran or his survivor for the submission of vital records directly to the Veterans Administration.

B. Fees collected under this section by the State Registrar shall be transmitted to the Comptroller for deposit. ~~Four~~ Eight dollars of each fee collected by the State Registrar shall be deposited by the Comptroller into the special funds of the Division of Vital Records. Eight dollars of each fee collected by the State Registrar shall be deposited by the Comptroller into the special funds of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Two dollars of each fee collected by the State Registrar shall be deposited into the special funds of the Department of Health and shall be used to fund health care services. Two dollars of each fee collected by the State Registrar shall be deposited by the Comptroller into the Vital Statistics Automation Fund established pursuant to § 32.1-273.1 for so long as shall be authorized. ~~Four~~ dollars of each fee shall be credited to a special fund to be appropriated by the General Assembly, as it deems necessary, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter. When the Vital Statistics Automation System is completed, no further deposits into the fund shall be made and all fees collected under this section not credited to the special fund created by this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund of the state treasury.

C. Fees collected under this section by county and city registrars shall be deposited in the general fund of the county or city except that counties or cities operating health departments pursuant to the provisions of § 32.1-31 shall forward all such fees to the Department for deposit in the cooperative local health services fund.

D. Fees assessed against local departments of social services for furnished copies of vital records as needed to administer public assistance and social services programs, as defined in § 63.2-100, shall be payable on a quarterly basis.

INTRODUCED

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