

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 17.1-276 of the Code of Virginia, relating to a fee exemption for the*
3 *Virginia Outdoors Foundation.*

4
5 Approved

[S 183]

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

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

8 § 17.1-276. Fee allowed for providing secure remote access to land records.

9 A. A clerk of the circuit court who provides secure remote access to land records pursuant to
10 § 17.1-294 may charge a fee as provided in this section established by the clerk to cover the operational
11 expenses. Operational expenses shall include, but not be limited to, (i) computer support, maintenance,
12 enhancements, upgrades, and replacements and office automation and information technology equipment
13 including software and conversion services; (ii) preserving, maintaining, and enhancing court records,
14 including, but not limited to, the costs of repairs, maintenance, consulting services, service contracts,
15 redaction of social security numbers from land or other records, and system replacements or upgrades;
16 and (iii) improving public access to records maintained by the clerk. A flat fee may be assessed for each
17 subscriber, as defined in § 17.1-295, in an amount not to exceed \$50 per month. The fee shall be paid to
18 the clerk's office and deposited by the clerk into the clerk's nonreverting local fund to be used to cover
19 operational expenses. The circuit court clerk shall enter into an agreement with each person whom the
20 clerk authorizes to have remote access, in accordance with the security standards established by the
21 Virginia Information Technologies Agency.

22 The Office of the Attorney General, *the* Division of Debt Collection, the Department of
23 Transportation, *the Virginia Outdoors Foundation*, and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation
24 shall be exempt from paying any fee for remote access to land records. If any clerk contracts with an
25 outside vendor to provide remote access to land records to subscribers, such contract shall contain a
26 provision exempting the Office of the Attorney General, *the* Division of Debt Collection, the Department
27 of Transportation, *the Virginia Outdoors Foundation*, and the Department of Rail and Public
28 Transportation from paying any access or subscription fee.

29 B. (Expires September 30, 2012) The clerk of the Circuit Court of Prince William County may
30 establish a pilot program under which the clerk assesses a daily fee for remote access to land records
31 and a separate fee per image downloaded in an amount not to exceed the fee provided in subdivision A
32 8 of § 17.1-275. The clerk shall make a report on any such pilot program to the House Committee for
33 Courts of Justice and the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice on or before September 30, 2012. The
34 report shall provide a summary of the pilot program and include the level of participation, the costs of
35 the program, and the revenues generated by the program.

ENROLLED

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