

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 473

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

PUBLIC RECORDS: Provides relative to fees for production of public records

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 44:32(C)(1)(a), relative to public records; to provide for  
3 examination of public records; to provide for a fee for transmitting electronic copies  
4 of public records; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 44:32(C)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §32. Duty to permit examination; prevention of alteration; payment for overtime;  
8 copies provided; fees

9 \* \* \*

10 C.(1)(a) For all public records, except public records of state agencies, it  
11 shall be the duty of the custodian of such public records to provide copies to persons  
12 so requesting. The custodian may establish and collect reasonable fees for making  
13 copies of public records, which may include the transmission of electronic copies of  
14 public records. The custodian may request payment of fees in advance of  
15 production. Copies of records may be furnished without charge or at a reduced  
16 charge to indigent citizens of this state.

17 \* \* \*

18 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
19 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
20 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

- 1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
2 effective on the day following such approval.
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## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 473 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Duplessis

**Abstract:** Provides for a fee for the transmission of electronic copies of public records.

Present law provides that for all public records it shall be the duty of the custodian of such public records to provide copies to persons so requesting. Further provides that the custodian of public records for an entity that is not a state agency may establish and collect reasonable fees for making copies of public records.

Proposed law provides that fees for copies may include the transmission of electronic copies of public records.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 44:32(C)(1)(a))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Retain present law, which authorizes rather than requires custodians to charge a fee for copies of public records.