

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~~ shall establish and collect reasonable fees for
13 making copies of public records and for transmitting electronic copies of public
14 records. The custodian may request payment of fees in advance of production.
15 Copies of records may be furnished without charge or at a reduced charge to indigent
16 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.

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)]

HB 473 Original

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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 requires such custodians to charge fees for copies and adds that the custodian shall also collect a reasonable fee to 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))