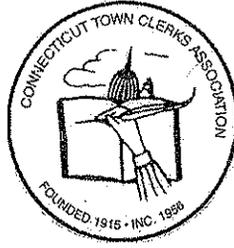


Connecticut Town Clerks Association, Inc.

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2009 Legislative Committee

Written Testimony
Monday, February 9, 2009
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Senate Bill 808 An Act Concerning the Increasing of Fees and Fines.

We would like to start by thanking the committee for raising this legislation. This is a most critical time for our towns and cities in Connecticut.

The Town Clerks Association would like to request an amendment to this bill for certain Town Clerk municipal fees that are smaller in nature but provide for a larger percentage of change than called for in the original bill. In most cases, these fees have not been increased for decades.

The period of time since the last time these fees were increased, as well as what the market place can bear, forms the basis of these increases. Please keep in mind that the cost to administer these programs on the municipal level has increased significantly over this period of time and as you can see these are modest increases when compared to the cost of living. When we look at the time it takes to administer these programs verses the amount of money collected that stays on the town side, we can see that even with these increases the towns will be operating at a loss.

For example, Glastonbury collected only approximately \$8,640 as the town's portion in fiscal year 2007/2008 for all of the fees we have listed in our proposed legislation. If the new fee schedule had been in place during that time, we would have collected approximately \$18,100. This amount still does not even come close to covering the cost of even one of the three fulltime salaries besides me in my office which are required to meet the demands of the office as a result of these programs.

While this is not a perfect solution, we believe it is all the market can bear at this time and will aid the cities and towns at this critical time. We urge you to consider our amendment and thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce P. Mascena, Glastonbury Town Clerk
Chair, CTCA Legislative Committee

Connecticut Town Clerks Association
 Summary of Proposed Fee Increases
 2009 Legislative Session

Rev. 2/9/2009A

Statute #	Fee Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Yr. Last Incr.	COLA to 2008	Comments
\$9-6.	Conference Reimbursement	\$35.00	Registration	1979	\$104.18	
\$22-338.		Minimum Rate of \$0.20 per Mile or Greater Rate as Determined by Municipality				
\$9-6.	Mileage Reimbursement	\$1.00/mo	IRS Standard Mileage Rate	1983	\$0.43	2009 IRS Standard Mileage Rate = \$0.55
\$22-338.	Dog License Late Fee	\$1.00/mo	\$2.00/mo	1982	\$2.24	Increase to stay in the town, not sent to Dept of Ag. \$22-347.
\$22-339	Dog License - Change of Ownership	\$1.00/mo	\$5.00/mo	1982	\$2.24	
\$22-342	Kennel License Late Fee	\$1.00/dog	\$2.00/dog	1977	\$3.57	Increase to stay in the town, not sent to Dept of Ag. \$22-347.
\$22-347.	Replacement Dog Tag	\$0.50	\$5.00	1982	\$1.12	
\$22-352.	Dog License - Chg of Residence	\$0.50	\$5.00	1963	\$3.53	
\$30-53	Liquor Permit Filing	\$2.00	\$10.00	1967	\$12.94	
\$7-34a.	Misc. Document Filing	\$5.00	\$20.00	1982	\$11.20	
\$7-34a.	Map Filing & Indexing	\$10.00	\$20.00	1971	\$53.36	
\$7-34a.	Notary Public - Oath & Commission Filing	\$10.00	\$20.00	1981	\$23.77	
\$7-34a.	Notary Public - Character Certification	\$2.00	\$5.00	1981	\$4.75	
\$3-94o.	Notary Public - Record Name Change	\$1.00	\$5.00	1990	\$1.65	
\$3-95.	Notarization	\$5.00	\$10.00	2000	\$6.27	
\$3-95.	Notary Public - Mileage Reimbursement	\$0.35	IRS Standard Mileage Rate	2000	\$0.44	2009 IRS Standard Mileage Rate = \$0.55
\$7-73.	Marriage License Fee	\$10.00	\$20.00	1989	\$17.43	Town Portion Only
\$7-73.	Burial or Burial Transit Removal/Disinterment Permit	\$3.00	\$5.00	1989	\$5.23	
\$19a-323.	Cremation Permit Fee	\$3.00	\$5.00	1991	\$4.76	
\$19a-323.	Cremation Written Notice Fee	\$1.00	\$2.00	1959	\$7.43	