



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 506

February Session, 2024

Substitute Senate Bill No. 360

Senate, April 16, 2024

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. WINFIELD of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSCRIPT FEES CHARGED BY OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS AND COURT REPORTING MONITORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 51-63 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

3 (a) (1) In addition to a salary, an official court reporter and a court
4 recording monitor shall be entitled to charge an individual, who is not
5 a public official, three dollars and sixty cents for each transcript page
6 [which] that is ordered and transcribed from the original record as
7 provided by law, provided such rate may only be charged once. Any
8 subsequent charge for a transcript page previously produced for an
9 individual who is not a public official shall be [one dollar and seventy-
10 five cents] two dollars and ten cents.

11 (2) In addition to a salary, an official court reporter and a court
12 recording monitor shall be entitled to charge any public official, other

13 than a judicial officer or employee of the Judicial Branch, two dollars
 14 and forty cents for each transcript page [which] that is ordered and
 15 transcribed from the official record as provided by law, provided such
 16 rate may only be charged once. The charge to any public official, other
 17 than a judicial officer or employee of the Judicial Branch, shall be
 18 [seventy-five cents] ninety cents for each transcript page previously
 19 produced, except (A) there shall be no charge to the state's attorney for
 20 a transcript provided pursuant to subsection (d) of section 51-61, and (B)
 21 there shall be no charge to the court for a transcript provided pursuant
 22 to subsection (f) of section 51-61.

23 (b) The fee for a transcript of such record, when made for the court or
 24 for the state's attorney when acting in the court's or state's attorney's
 25 official capacity, and for one copy each to the plaintiff and the
 26 defendant, shall, upon the certificate of the presiding judge having so
 27 ordered such transcript, be paid as other court expenses and, in all other
 28 cases, by the party ordering the same, and such copies shall be furnished
 29 within a reasonable time.

30 (c) Official and assistant stenographers in the offices of the
 31 administrative law judges shall be entitled, in addition to the
 32 compensation otherwise provided for, to the same fees for preparing
 33 transcripts as are provided for official court reporters and court
 34 recording monitors in the Superior Court.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2024	51-63

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 25 \$	FY 26 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 25 \$	FY 26 \$
All Municipalities	Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Explanation

The bill, which increases court transcript fees, results in minimal cost to various state agencies. The bill also results in a potential minimal cost to all municipalities. The proposed increased fees are 20% more than the current fees as described in the table below.

This will result in a minimal annual cost to the extent that transcripts are ordered. The bill results in a potential cost to municipalities beginning in FY 25 to the extent that a municipality must request a transcript from a court or court reporter at the increased cost.

Categories of Per-page Fees	Current Fee \$	New Fee \$
First Transcript- Ordered from a Non-Public Official	3.00	3.60
Transcript Copies- Ordered from a Non-Public Official	1.75	2.10
First Transcript- Ordered from a Public Official	2.00	2.40
Transcript Copies- Ordered from a Public Official	0.75	0.90

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to transcript requests.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 360

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSCRIPT FEES CHARGED BY OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS AND COURT REPORTING MONITORS.

SUMMARY

This bill increases the transcript fees that court reporters and court reporting monitors may charge.

Specifically, for transcripts requested by someone other than a public official, it increases the per-page fee from (1) \$3 to \$3.60 for the first transcript from the original record and (2) \$1.75 to \$2.10 for subsequent copies. For transcripts requested by most public officials (state or local) other than judicial employees or officers, it increases the per-page fee from (1) \$2 to \$2.40 for the first transcript from the original record and (2) \$.75 to \$.90 for subsequent copies.

The law prohibits court reporters and monitors from charging (1) a state’s attorney for a copy of a transcript requested by a party of record or a party represented by counsel other than a public defender and (2) the court for a copy requested by a state’s attorney or a party of record.

By law, the fees for court reporters and court monitors also apply to official and assistant stenographers in the offices of workers’ compensation administrative law judges. Also, in probate cases, if the parties or their attorneys agree, the judge may call in a stenographer, whose compensation cannot exceed that of court reporters.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 36 Nay 0 (03/28/2024)