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S.F. No. 2953 – Prohibiting Fees for Viewing and Downloading District Court Documents Made Available Online

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## **Background**

Under current law a person must pay an \$8 fee to receive an uncertified copy of a court document. The Judicial Branch is in the process of implementing an online access application to enable the public to view and download certain public district court records. The court is also developing a payment processor with the ability to charge for the download of any document over one page long. Until the payment processor is installed (fall of 2022), documents may be downloaded for free.

## **Bill Summary**

This bill prohibits charging a fee to view or download an uncertified copy of any document available on an online platform for public access to district court records. In other words, the current (interim) practice of not charging a fee for viewing or downloading a document from such platforms will become law.

If a person requests an uncertified copy of a district court document from a court administrator's office, the person will continue to pay the \$8 fee.