

STATE OF MINNESOTA

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSED
RULES RELATING TO FEES FOR
THE ISSUANCE OF COPIES OF
VITAL RECORDS AND OTHER
RELATED SERVICES PERTAINING
TO VITAL RECORDS.

STATEMENT OF NEED
AND REASONABLENESS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Minnesota Statute 144.226 authorizes the Commissioner of Health to prescribe by rule fees for issuance of certified copies of vital records.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The Department last increased fees for vital records in January, 1982. In 1982 the fees increased from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per copy. At that time the annual costs associated with this activity were approximately \$350,000. At the present time the projected costs associated with this activity for Fiscal Year 1987 are \$445,000. The Department of Finance has approved the fee changes as proposed by the Commissioner of Health. Please see attached.

The issuance of copies of vital records and related services are a direct service and benefit to specific individuals. The fee schedule proposed, as in the past, would result in the users of the service paying the costs involved.

4600.0900 FEES

Subpart 1. Certified copy. Expenditures projected for Fiscal Year 1987 for the vital records activity are \$445,000. Revenue generated by the Section in this same period will be approximately \$277,000. This amounts to a shortfall of \$168,000. Without an increase in fees, this deficit will grow as salary and benefit expenses continue to outpace the increase in revenue.

The Section issued 49,582 copies in calendar 1986. Revenue from other services has averaged (1985 and 1986) \$37,000 annually. Therefore, if \$8.00 is collected per copy at this volume, revenue will be:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 49,582 \times \$8.00 & = & \$396,656 \\ \text{other income} & = & \underline{37,000} \\ & & \$433,656 \end{array}$$

The costs associated with issuing additional copies of a certificate

after it has once been located are minimal. Therefore, a reduced fee of \$2.00 each for additional copies of the identical record requested at the same time is proposed. This reduced rate for extra copies should expand the number of multiple copies issued. This growth, however, will offset an expected decrease in first copies issued as a result of the increase in the first copy price.

It should be noted that the Legislature passed a law providing for a \$2.00 surcharge on each certified copy of a birth record issued. Therefore, the actual fee charged by state and local registrars would be \$10.00 for the first copy and \$4.00 for each additional copy.

Subpart 5. Fee for verification. The costs to search for a certificate and to verify information from it are essentially the same as the costs involved in making a certified copy. Therefore, the verification charge and the certified copy fee are both proposed to be \$8.00.

Ten dollars (\$10.00) per hour is suggested to be the fee when the applicant does not supply specific information to locate a record. The hourly pay rate at the midpoint of the clerk 2 compensation range is \$8.86 per hour; fringe benefits are 18% of the wage adding \$1.59 per hour for a total of \$10.45.

Subpart 6. Copies of other documents. Frequently applicants need certified copies of affidavits of paternity (or certifications that no affidavit is on file) or affidavits supporting corrections to vital records. Currently, no specific provision exists in rule to charge a fee for issuing on these documents. The recommended \$5.00 fee will cover the costs of supplying these documents.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE APPROVAL FOR INCREASING
THE FEES FOR PROVIDING COPIES OF VITAL RECORDS

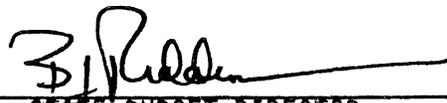
Minnesota Statute § 144.226 authorizes the Commissioner of Health to establish fees for providing copies of Vital Records to the public. The Commissioner will adopt rules to change the fee from \$5.00 per copy to \$8.00 for the first copy and \$2.00 for each additional copy.

These proposed fees are in accordance with Minnesota Statute § 16A.128, which requires the fees generated to cover the cost of the program.

Upon review of the attached supporting information justifying the need and amount of the proposed fee and pursuant to authority vested in the Department of Finance (under Minnesota Statute § 16A.128, the fees set forth in the proposal of the Commissioner of Health are hereby approved.

2-24-87

DATE


STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR
Operations

FEB 26 1987