

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 559

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 14, 2010

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly, No. 559.

As amended, this bill decreases the fees set for copies of documents in various parts of the New Jersey statutes relating to government entities, excluding the court system. The statute sections amended concern copies of certain public documents from the Office of the State Treasurer or the Board of Public Utilities, of motor vehicle accident reports, and of government records under the open public records act (OPRA). The fees for copies will be up to 10 cents per page for letter size copies and up to 15 cents per page for legal size copies, except that the fees set in the OPRA statute are a straightforward \$0.10 or \$0.15 per page. Currently, there is no uniform cost for copies of documents among governmental entities.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to provide that with regard to copies of government records sought under OPRA pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, the fee will be \$0.10 per letter size page or small and \$0.15 per legal size page or larger, instead of “up to” those amounts, and that the duplication fee applies to copying or faxing, scanning and other electronic means of duplication. The amendments also update the statutory law of Section 2 of the bill.