

House Bill No. 5073

An act relating to the Department of State; amending s. 15.09, F.S.; eliminating the fee charged by the department for searching of papers or records; amending s. 267.031, F.S.; eliminating the requirement for the establishment of regional offices for the purpose of assisting the department in the delivery of historic preservation services; amending s. 267.173, F.S.; eliminating reference to contracting with the University of West Florida as a regional office serving a specified area, to conform; repealing s. 267.174, F.S., relating to the Discovery of Florida Quincentennial Commemoration Commission; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 15.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15.09 Fees.—

(1) The fees, except as provided by law, to be collected by the Department of State, are:

~~(a) For searching of papers or records, \$3.50, except that there shall be no charge for telephone requests for general corporate information, including the corporation's status, names of officers and directors, address of principal place of business, and name and address of resident agent.~~

(a)(b) For providing a certificate with seal, \$8.75; however, no fee shall be charged for providing a certificate with seal to any officer appointed to an office requiring Senate confirmation.

(b)(e) For furnishing statistical information and for copying any document not mentioned, \$1 per page or fraction thereof.

Section 2. Paragraph (m) of subsection (5) of section 267.031, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs (n) through (p) of that subsection are redesignated as paragraphs (m) through (o), respectively, to read:

267.031 Division of Historical Resources; powers and duties.—

(5) It is the responsibility of the division to:

~~(m) Establish regional offices for the purpose of assisting the division in the delivery of historic preservation services to the counties and municipalities of the state and to the citizens of the State of Florida. Historic preservation regional offices shall be established in at least three areas of the state which the division deems appropriate. For each regional office established, the division shall establish a citizen advisory board to provide assistance, advice, and recommendations to the regional office. The members of each citizen advisory board shall be appointed by the Secretary of State.~~

Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 267.173, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (6) through (8) of that section are renumbered as subsections (5) through (7), respectively, to read:

267.173 Historic preservation in West Florida; goals; contracts for historic preservation; powers and duties.—

~~(5) The Division of Historical Resources in the Department of State may contract with the University of West Florida to serve as the regional office for the West Florida region of the state from the Apalachicola River to the western boundaries of the state. In lieu of the establishment of a citizen advisory board as required by s. 267.031(5)(m), the University of West Florida may use an existing direct-support organization of the university provided that the membership of the direct-support organization is representative of the area of the state to be served and provides the needed expertise in the area of historic preservation.~~

Section 4. Section 267.174, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor June 10, 2008.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 10, 2008.