

Recording Fees Reduced for Certain Document Types

Effective July 23, 2023 the recording fees for government liens and certain other documents will be reduced due to Substitute Senate Bill 5386.

What is changing?

- SB 5386 exempts certain documents from the \$183 homeless housing surcharge
- Documents exempt from the surcharge are federal, state, county, city, or water-sewer liens or releases of liens, wage liens or releases of wage liens, birth certificates, death certificates, certificates of marriage, and divorce decrees
- These documents will be charged \$18 for the first page and \$1 per additional page
- Employment Security liens and releases will be charged \$15 for the first page and \$1 per additional page

SB 5386 – Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 36.22 RCW to read as follows: (1) A surcharge of \$183 per instrument shall be charged by the county auditor for each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other charge authorized by law. The following are exempt from this surcharge: (a) Assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust; (b) Documents recording a birth, marriage, divorce, or death; (c) Any recorded documents otherwise exempted from a recording fee or additional surcharges under state law; (d) Marriage licenses issued by the county auditor; and (e) Documents recording a federal, state, county, city, or water-sewer district, or wage lien or satisfaction of lien.