

ASSEMBLY, No. 3054

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 20, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Revises page rate for transcript of stenographic record or other court recordings; eliminates scheduled page rate increases.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning transcript fees and amending N.J.S.2B:7-4.

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

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6 1. N.J.S.2B:7-4 is amended to read as follows:

7 2B:7-4. Transcript; Fees. a. When a transcript of a stenographic
8 record or other recording in any court or in any other proceeding
9 recorded at the direction of the Supreme Court is made, at the
10 request of any person, the original and copies thereof shall be
11 prepared in the manner prescribed by the Rules of Court of the State
12 of New Jersey and the standards fixed by the Administrative
13 Director of the Courts and paid for at the rate of **[\$3.00]** \$4.29 for
14 each page of an original standard delivery transcript and **[\$0.50]**
15 \$0.72 for each of the copies thereof. If the transcript is furnished to
16 a judge of the court, by court order, the reporter shall be paid at the
17 same rates, and in the same manner and from the same sources as
18 the reporter's salary or per diem fees are paid.

19 b. **Beginning on the first day of July 2005, and on the first day**
20 **of each fifth July thereafter, the rates and fees set forth in**
21 **subsection a. of this section shall be increased to reflect changes in**
22 **the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as follows: the foregoing fees and**
23 **rates shall be multiplied by a fraction, the denominator of which**
24 **shall be the CPI for March 2000 and the numerator of which shall**
25 **be the CPI for the March immediately preceding the applicable July**
26 **1.**

27 For the purposes of this subsection, "CPI" shall mean that table
28 in the Consumer Price Index published by the United States
29 Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, now known as the
30 "Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical
31 Workers, All Items, New York-Northern New Jersey (index: 1982-
32 1984 equals 100)." If this CPI shall be discontinued, then the
33 Administrative Director of the Courts shall designate any successor
34 Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor
35 Statistics, or any successor agency thereto, for the New York-
36 Northern New Jersey area. **](Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c.)**
37 **(pending before the Legislature as this bill)**

38 c. Except as to transcripts that are to be paid for by the State or
39 county, the person preparing the transcripts may require any person
40 requesting a transcript to prepay the estimated fee therefor in
41 advance of delivery of the transcript.

42 d. The Supreme Court may adopt Rules of Court and the
43 Administrative Director of the Courts may issue directives to
44 implement the purposes of this **[act]** section.

45 (cf: P.L.2000, c.30, s.1)

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill eliminates automatic scheduled increases correlated to
7 the Consumer Price Index in the page rate for transcript of
8 stenographic records or other court recordings, and fixes the rate at
9 the current price of \$4.29 for each page of an original transcript and
10 \$0.72 for each page of a copy of a transcript.

11 Current law, adopted in 2000, set the original page rate for
12 transcript of stenographic records or other court recordings at \$3 for
13 each page of an original transcript and \$0.50 for each page of a
14 copy of a transcript, subject to automatic increases every five years
15 to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. This cost is next
16 scheduled to increase in July 2020. This bill eliminates the
17 automatic scheduled increases and fixes the rate at the current price,
18 as of 2019, of \$4.29 for each page of an original transcript and
19 \$0.72 for each page of a copy of a transcript.