

# 89TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## COUNTY CLERK ELECTRONIC COPIES FEE

**HB 3733 (REP. ORR) / SB 1547 (SEN. ZAFFIRINI)**



*TLTA seeks introduction and passage of a clean up bill that aims to correct recently amended language in the Texas Local Government Code that created a conflict of law relative to charges for electronic copies.*

### Problem

Traditionally, the cost of producing electronic copies for the citizenry by the county clerks has been limited to the work and costs required to produce those documents. However, since the passage of SB 1612 during the last legislative session, there is now a conflict in the law regarding the charge for electronic copies of real property records.

### Solution

The statute should be modified to:

Amend the language from Section 118.011 (a) and Section 118.052 of the local Government Code to exclude real property that allows county clerks to charge the \$0.10 fee per page for electronic copies.

### Background

During the 88th Legislative Session, SB 1612 was passed. This bill included several ministerial cleanups for district courts. However, the bill also included language allowing county clerks to charge \$0.10 a page for electronic copies of real property records. This was not the goal of the legislation and was a drafting oversight.

Charging \$0.10 per page for an electronic copy greatly exceeds the amounts allowed under Section 118.11(e) of the statute, which requires that such charges be limited to the production costs as outlined in Sections 552.231 and 552.262 of the Government Code.

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Texas Land Title Association

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