

**House File 545 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 545  
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 57)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the assessment of fees when a public  
2 defender or designee requests copies of certain documents.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 815.16 Fees for requests for copies  
2 of documents.

3 A written request for a discovery document by a public  
4 defender or public defender's designee under the applicable  
5 rules of criminal procedure shall be provided at no more than  
6 ten dollars per document request unless otherwise ordered by  
7 the court. A request for multiple discovery documents at  
8 the same time shall be considered a single request. Digital  
9 discovery documents shall be provided in a format that is  
10 generally accessible to the public. However, no fee shall be  
11 charged if the discovery document requested is available on a  
12 cloud-based system or if the discovery document is available  
13 for downloading by an individual from an existing system such  
14 as a state, county, or city internet site.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill relates to the assessment of fees when a public  
19 defender or designee requests copies of certain documents.  
20 The bill provides that a written request for a discovery  
21 document by a public defender or public defender's designee  
22 shall be provided at no more than \$10 per document request  
23 unless otherwise ordered by the court. A request for multiple  
24 discovery documents made at the same time is considered to  
25 be a single request. Digital discovery documents shall be  
26 provided in a format that is generally accessible to the  
27 public. However, no fee will be charged if the discovery  
28 document requested is available on a cloud-based system or  
29 if the discovery document is available for downloading by an  
30 individual from an existing system such as a state, county, or  
31 city internet site.