SENATE, No. 2988

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

Sponsored by:
Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE
District 19 (Middlesex)
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:
Senators Zwicker, Singleton and Stack

SYNOPSIS

Eliminates fee for filing certified copy of name change order.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/1/2026)

AN ACT concerning the fee for filing a certified copy of a name change order and amending P.L.1987, c.435.

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

1. Section 11 of P.L.1987, c.435 (C.22A:4-1a) is amended to read as follows:

11. For services herein enumerated the State Treasurer shall collect the following fees:

a. For filing any original business certificate for which no other fee is fixed by statute or regulation, $125.

For filing any change or amendment to a previously filed document for which no other fee is fixed by statute or regulation, $75.

For issuing any certificate or filing any other document for which no other fee is fixed by statute or regulation, $25.00, except that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to:

(1) certificates of appointments for gubernatorial appointees;

(2) documents filed by public bodies under the "Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act," P.L.1975, c.231 (C.10:4-6 et seq.);

(3) financial disclosures filed by State officials;

(4) oaths of office;

(5) resignation of office holders;

(6) documents filed by other State government entities indexed in the department's miscellaneous file.

b. For certification or exemplification of any document on file, $25.00.

c. For certification or exemplification of any signature on file, including the issuance of a certificate for proving a document outside the United States, also known as an apostille, $25.00; except that in cases of adoption of a child, the fee for an apostille shall be $5.00.

d. **[**For filing a certified copy of an order of change of name, $50.00.**]**<u>Deleted by amendment P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).</u>

e. For a paper copy of any document on file, up to $0.10 per letter size page or smaller and up to $0.15 per legal size page or larger. If a roll of microfilm images is requested, the State Treasurer shall collect a fee of $1.00 for each image on the microfilm roll. If a microfiche copy of a microfiche is requested, $3.00.

f. For filing a proof of publication, $10.00.

(cf: P.L.2010, c.75, 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 <u>thus</u> is new matter.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

Under current law, a $50 fee is charged for filing a certified copy of an order for change of name. Many New Jersey residents seek a change of name each year for reasons including marriage and divorce.

This bill eliminates the fee for filing a certified copy of a name change order in this State.