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SENATE BILL 442

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

John M. Sapien

RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS; ALLOWING A CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS TO CHARGE A REASONABLE FEE FOR ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS.

AN ACT

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 14-2-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 258, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"14-2-9. PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION.--

A. Requested public records containing information that is exempt and nonexempt from disclosure shall be separated by the custodian prior to inspection, and the nonexempt information shall be made available for inspection. If necessary to preserve the integrity of computer data or the confidentiality of exempt information contained in a database, a partial printout of data containing public records or information may be furnished in lieu of an entire database.

.211667.1

Exempt information in an electronic document shall be removed along with the corresponding metadata prior to disclosure by utilizing methods or redaction tools that prevent the recovery of exempt information from a redacted electronic document.

B. A custodian shall provide a copy of a public record in electronic format if the public record is available in electronic format and an electronic copy is specifically requested. However, a custodian is only required to provide the electronic record in the file format in which it exists at the time of the request.

C. A custodian:

- (1) may charge reasonable fees for copying the public records, unless a different fee is otherwise prescribed by law;
- (2) shall not charge fees in excess of one dollar (\$1.00) per printed page for documents eleven inches by seventeen inches in size or smaller;
- (3) may charge [the actual costs associated with] reasonable fees for downloading copies of public records to a computer disk or storage device, including the actual cost of the computer disk or storage device;
- (4) shall not charge fees in excess of one dollar (\$1.00) per page for electronic documents;
- $\left[\frac{(4)}{(5)}\right]$ may charge the actual costs associated with transmitting copies of public records by mail, .211667.1

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electronic mail or facsimile;

[(5)] (6) may require advance payment of the fees before making copies of public records;

 $[\frac{(6)}{(7)}]$ shall not charge a fee for the cost of determining whether any public record is subject to disclosure; and

 $[\frac{7}{8}]$ (8) shall provide a receipt, upon request.

Nothing in this section regarding the provision of public data in electronic format shall limit the ability of the custodian to engage in the sale of data as authorized by Sections 14-3-15.1 and 14-3-18 NMSA 1978, including imposing reasonable restrictions on the use of the database and the payment of a royalty or other consideration."

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