

H.735 2014 EXECUTIVE FEE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by JFO

Department of Taxes

Sec. 1 Non-Sufficient Fund Check Charges

Adjusts the penalty for non-sufficient funds on payments to executive branch departments from \$13 to \$20 and applies the penalty to online ACH payments in addition to paper checks. All penalties will now go directly to the department from which the charge originated and a portion will no longer be dedicated to the general fund. The expansion of the penalty will generate approximately \$44,000 in new revenue for executive branch departments and will subtract approximately \$12,000 from the general fund.

Sec. 2 Use Value Appraisal Filing (Current Use)

Raises the fee for a use value appraisal filing from \$30 to \$70. This fee increase will generate approximately \$60,000 in new revenue.

Lottery Commission

Sec. 3 Lottery Agent License Fees

Increases the one-time licensing fee for lottery ticket sales agents from \$15 to \$50. This fee will generate approximately \$1,200 in new revenue for the Lottery Enterprise Fund.

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Sec. 4 'Market Vermont' Logo Program

Establishes a new program to market goods that are made in Vermont. Authorizes an annual fee of not more than \$150 per enrolled product line to pay for the costs of administering the program. This fee will generate approximately \$56,200 of new revenue.

Sec. 5 Mobile Home Park Registration Fee

Raises the fee that mobile park owners must pay for leased and occupied lots from \$9 to \$12 annually. This increase will generate approximately \$19,500 in new revenue.

Sec. 6 Historic Site Admission Fee/Archeology Collection Fee

Raises the maximum fee that may be charged for entry to State Historic Sites from \$8 to \$12. The maximum fee is expected to only be applied to Plymouth Notch State Historic Site (Calvin Coolidge) and will generate approximately \$8,268 in new revenue. Additionally, the one-time charge for archival boxes for the storage and maintenance of archeological items will be raised from \$400 to \$500. This fee increase is not expected to generate any new revenue in FY15.

Department of Labor

Sec. 7 Worker's Compensation Fund

The worker's compensation premium assessment will remain at 1.45%. The assessment for self-insured workers will remain at 1.00%. No additional revenue will be generated.

Sec. 8 Tramways Inspection

Removes the \$25/hr. limit that the Department of Labor may charge to tramway operators for any special, outside assistance provided during tramway inspections. This will not generate any new revenue.

Secretary of State

Sec. 9-11 Lobbyist Registration Fees

Increases initial registration fees for lobbyists and employers from \$25 to \$50. Increases the fee levied upon employers for each engaged lobbyist and upon lobbyists for each employer represented from \$5 to \$10. Increases late registration fees and late disclosure fees from \$10 to \$25 per day and the maximum late fee from \$175 to \$350. Establishes an initial lobbying firm listing fee of \$100. This will generate approximately \$40,550 in new revenue.

Sec. 12-18 Professional Regulation Fees

Lowers the annual professional fees for chiropractors and optometrists and increases the fees for engineers, funeral directors, embalmers, crematory establishments, removal personnel, registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, licensed nursing assistants, real estate brokers and real estate offices. These fee changes will raise approximately \$589,145 in new professional fee revenue.

Department of Public Safety

Sec 19-21

Establishes a fee for the storage of firearms surrendered pursuant to relief from abuse orders. Fees will be set at \$4 per item, per week for storage and \$25 upon retrieval. The annual revenue impact is unknown at this time. Establishes a requirement for the Dept. of Public Safety to report to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees on April 15, 2014 regarding implementation of the program and annually thereafter.

Department of Finance and Management

Sec. 22 Technical Correction

Corrects the name of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development in 32 VSA § 605.

State of Vermont Judiciary

Sec. 23-25 Judicial Fees

Increases the fees listed under 32 VSA § 1431 and § 1434. These fee increases will be made to cover the loss of the 5% judicial fee surcharge, which expires on July 1, 2014. The fee increases will generate approximately \$35,334 in net new revenue with \$13,933 going to the general fund and the remainder, fees for the filing of a will, going to the county of jurisdiction.

Vermont Information Consortium (VIC)

Sec 26-28 Fees for Credit Card Payments

Increases the fees imposed upon those persons making tax payments using a credit card from 2% (only on payments of over \$200) to a 3% fee for all payments. Increases the fees for over-the-counter DMV payments made using a credit card from 2.5% to 3%. All additional revenue will go directly to VIC and will not affect state revenues. The 3% fee for tax payments using a credit card will sunset on July 1, 2016.