



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6876

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT CONCERNING THE COPYING OF PUBLIC RECORDS BY
USING A HAND-HELD SCANNER.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 1-212 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2019*):

4 (a) Any person applying in writing shall receive, promptly upon
5 request, a plain, facsimile, electronic or certified copy of any public
6 record. The type of copy provided shall be within the discretion of the
7 public agency, except (1) the agency shall provide a certified copy
8 whenever requested, and (2) if the applicant does not have access to a
9 computer or facsimile machine, the public agency shall not send the
10 applicant an electronic or facsimile copy. [The] Except as provided in
11 subsection (g) of this section, the fee for any copy provided in
12 accordance with the Freedom of Information Act:

13 (A) By an executive, administrative or legislative office of the state, a
14 state agency or a department, institution, bureau, board, commission,
15 authority or official of the state, including a committee of, or created
16 by, such an office, agency, department, institution, bureau, board,
17 commission, authority or official, and also including any judicial office,
18 official or body or committee thereof but only in respect to its or their

19 administrative functions, shall not exceed twenty-five cents per page;
20 and

21 (B) By all other public agencies, as defined in section 1-200, shall not
22 exceed fifty cents per page. If any copy provided in accordance with
23 said Freedom of Information Act requires a transcription, or if any
24 person applies for a transcription of a public record, the fee for such
25 transcription shall not exceed the cost thereof to the public agency.

26 Sec. 2. Subsection (g) of section 1-212 of the general statutes is
27 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
28 *October 1, 2019*):

29 (g) Any individual may copy a public record through the use of a
30 hand-held scanner. A public agency [may establish a fee structure not
31 to exceed twenty dollars for an] shall not charge a fee to any individual
32 [to pay each time the individual] who copies records at the agency
33 with a hand-held scanner. As used in this section, "hand-held scanner"
34 means a battery operated electronic scanning device the use of which
35 (1) leaves no mark or impression on the public record, and (2) does not
36 unreasonably interfere with the operation of the public agency. "Hand-
37 held scanner" includes, but is not limited to, a mobile telephone or
38 camera.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	1-212(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	1-212(g)

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*