## HOUSE . . . . . . No. 3386

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger relative to the cost of providing public records. State Administration.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE COST OF PROVIDING PUBLIC RECORDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- Section 10 of chapter 66 of the General Laws, as most recently
- 2 amended by section 3 of chapter 1050 of the acts of 1973, is hereby
- 3 further amended by striking out clause (a) and inserting in place
- 4 thereof the following clause: -
- 5 (a) Every person having custody of any public records, as
- 6 defined in clause twenty-six of section seven of chapter four, shall,
- 7 at reasonable times, and without reasonable delay, permit them to
- 8 be inspected and examined by any person, under his supervision,
- 9 and shall furnish copies thereof on payment of a fee as hereafter
- 10 specified. Every person for whom a search of public records is
- 11 made shall, at the direction of the person having custody of such
- 12 records, pay the actual expense of such search. The fee for a copy of
- 13 a public record shall be at the rate of ten cents per page, except (1)
- 14 where otherwise specially provided by statute or (2) where the
- 15 custodian has certified in writing to the state secretary, and the
- 16 state secretary has approved in writing, a higher rate which is
- state secretary has approved in writing, a higher rate which is
- 17 commercially reasonable.

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