

By: Staples

S.B. No. 1377

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain fees imposed by the secretary of state and the maximum amount that may be imposed in connection with the adoption of a child in another country.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 405.031, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (f) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) The secretary of state shall charge for the use of the state the following:

(1) for each official certificate, a fee of \$15 [~~\$10~~];

(2) for a certified copy of a record in the secretary of state's office, a fee of \$1 a page in addition to the fee for the certificate;

(3) for preparing and furnishing for a corporation, limited partnership, limited liability company, or registered limited liability partnership a certificate of existence or authorization that reflects any filing effecting changes to the entity's organizational documents or certificate of registration or authorization and the dates of those filings, a fee of \$25; and

(4) for the maintenance by the secretary of state of a record of the service of any process, notice, or demand authorized to be made on the secretary of state as agent, and for forwarding the process, notice, or demand, a fee of \$40 per person or party

1 served through the secretary of state.

2 (a-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(1), the secretary of  
3 state shall charge for the use of the state a fee of \$10 for the  
4 issuance of an apostille requested for use in proceedings related  
5 to the adoption of a child in another country, provided that the  
6 total fees charged for apostilles issued in connection with the  
7 adoption of one child may not exceed \$100.

8 (f) A fee paid under Subsection (a), (a-1), (b), (c), or (d)  
9 shall be paid in advance to the secretary of state's office.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.