



**Susan Bysiewicz**  
Secretary of the State  
Connecticut

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-PRESS RELEASE-

## **BYSIEWICZ: MOST FEES FOR SECRETARY OF THE STATE'S OFFICE TRANSACTIONS DOUBLING OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**

STATE BUDGET ACCORD INCLUDES FEE INCREASES FOR TRANSACTIONS FROM  
BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS TO ADOPTIONS; PENALTIES FOR OUT-OF-STATE  
BUSINESSES OPERATING ILLEGALLY IN CONNECTICUT ALSO RISING 82%

**HARTFORD:** Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz today is reminding Connecticut taxpayers and business owners that on October 1, 2009 fees for most transactions in the Secretary of the State's office will be doubling. This impacts fees across the board: from reservations of corporate names to annual reports, adoption papers, notaries and apostilles. The fee increases were contained in the state budget approved by the Connecticut General Assembly which became law without the Governor's signature on September 8, 2009 and could potentially bring in another \$20,000,000 in revenue to the general fund annually. Both Governor M. Jodi Rell and leaders of the General Assembly advocated raising fees throughout all state agencies as a way of closing a record \$8.5 Billion dollar state budget deficit for fiscal years 2010-2011.

"A rise in fees is never ideal," said Secretary Bysiewicz, Connecticut's Chief Business Registrar. "For over 10 years as Secretary of the State I have fought hard to keep transaction fees through our Commercial Recording Division low and this effort has been successful. This year's state budget, however, presented an extraordinarily difficult scenario where revenues cratered due to the worldwide economic downturn, most acutely felt in the financial sector. Every state department, from the Department of Public Health to the Department of Motor Vehicles to the Department of Environmental Protection and others are seeing fees go up to meet the financial crisis and need for more revenue. I thought it was important to inform the public of these fee increases before they take effect."

A full fee schedule showing the changes taking effect as of 10/1/09 is available on the Secretary of the State's website [www.sots.ct.gov](http://www.sots.ct.gov) or [www.concord.sots.ct.gov](http://www.concord.sots.ct.gov)

“One increase whose adoption I advocated and is also becoming law on October 1<sup>st</sup> is an increase in the penalty for out-of-state companies doing business in Connecticut who fail to register with my office,” said Secretary Bysiewicz. “Foreign entities operating in Connecticut without registration will be assessed a fine of \$300 per unregistered month. That is an 82% increase from the previous level of \$165/month. We expect this change to increase compliance with our registration law, ultimately providing more accountability for consumers and a more level playing field for Connecticut registered businesses that do follow the law.”

Secretary Bysiewicz has sent advance notice of all fee changes to many organizations and firms in the business and legal communities, in an effort to notify those who prepare and file many of the documents turned into the Secretary of the State’s office. Anyone with questions regarding the new fees and their impact is encouraged to contact the Secretary of the State’s Commercial Recording Division Business Info Line between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday, at 860-509-6002, or visit online at [www.sots.ct.gov](http://www.sots.ct.gov) or [www.concord.sots.ct.gov](http://www.concord.sots.ct.gov)