

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
79R3561 KKA-D

S.B. 1377
By: Staples
Jurisprudence
3/29/2005
As Filed

AUTHOR'S/SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, Section 405.301, Government Code, requires the secretary of state to charge a \$10 fee for each official certificate, including apostilles, regardless of the number needed. Currently, individuals seeking to adopt a child in another country may spend over \$500 for apostilles in adoption proceedings for one child.

As proposed, S.B. 1377 limits the amount the secretary of state can charge for apostilles requested for use in proceedings related to the adoption of a child in another country to \$100, regardless of the number of apostilles requested in conjunction with the adoption of that child.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 405.031, Government Code, by adding Subsection (g) to prohibit the secretary of state from charging more than a total of \$100 under Subsection (a)(1) (requiring the secretary of state to charge a \$10 fee for each official certificate) for the issuance of apostilles requested for use in proceedings related to the adoption of a child in another country, regardless of the number of apostilles requested in connection with the adoption of that child.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2005.