

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[San Francisco Public Library Fines and Fees.]

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Administrative Code by amending Section 8.21-2 to adjust existing Library fines and fees and authorize the Library to collect fees for scanning services, special meeting room services, and lost and damaged interlibrary loan materials.

Existing Law

Existing law sets the fines and fees that the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) may charge for certain Library materials and services.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed amendment would do the following:

1. Amend the existing fees for replacement of lost Library items (Subsection (a)) as follows:
 - The replacement fee for lost sheet music/scores would be changed from fair market value to \$30 plus a processing fee.
 - The replacement fee for lost audio books would apply to CDs in addition to tapes.
 - The fees for lost "CD Jewel Cases" and "Videocassette cases" would be eliminated and replaced with a \$1.00 per item fee for lost "media cases."
 - The fee for recovery of delinquent accounts would be eliminated
2. Authorize the Library to collect fees for the scanning of photographs in the San Francisco History Center collection. (Subsection (a)).
3. Authorize the Library to collect fees for services associated with special uses of library meeting rooms such as furniture set-up and custodial services. There is no charge for the use of meeting rooms. (Subsection (b)).
4. Authorize the Library to collect fees for the replacement of lost or damaged materials owned by other libraries and borrowed via interlibrary loan. The fee to be charged would be in the amount required by the lending libraries. The Library would collect the fees for the sole purpose of forwarding them to the lending libraries from which the lost/damaged material was borrowed. (Subsection (c)).

Background

The Library Fines and Fee Schedule has not been amended since 2001. Since that time, the Library has made changes in its services and collections, including changes in the technology

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through which services are provided. This ordinance would clarify the replacement fees for sheet music, audio books and media cases; set specific fees for scanning services in the San Francisco History Center; and set specific fees for special requests related to public use of Library meeting rooms. This ordinance would not increase existing Library fees.

This ordinance would also authorize fees required by recent changes in the Library's interlibrary loan program. Earlier this year, the Library joined the LINK+ consortium, which allows patrons to electronically request books from 49 California and Nevada libraries that make their collections available to member libraries. The LINK+ program requires all participating libraries to collect from patrons a fee for lost/damaged items that are borrowed from the LINK+ consortium. The existing Library fee schedule sets fees for lost/damaged materials owned by SFPL. However it does not now include lost/damaged fees that the Library must impose under LINK+ and other interlibrary loan programs for items borrowed from other library systems. This ordinance would allow the Library to collect the lost/damaged fees required by LINK+ and other interlibrary loan lending libraries.