

**LOCAL  
FISCAL IMPACT**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 14-0504  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Lebsock

**Date:** February 3, 2014  
**Bill Status:** House Local Government  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Kristen Koehler (303-866-4918)

**SHORT TITLE:** AUTHORIZE CLERKS TO REDACT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill requires County Clerk and Recorders (clerks) to redact the first five digits of a social security number (SSN) from public documents filed with the clerk, upon request of the person who is assigned the SSN or the person's representative. Clerks must redact the SSN if:

- the document containing the SSN is in electronic form;
- the clerk has the equipment to make the redaction automatically; and
- the person requesting the redaction makes the request in writing and pays a fee.

Clerks may, but are not required to, make the redaction even if the equipment to do so automatically is not available.

**Background**

County Clerk and Recorders are responsible for issuing and recording marriage licenses, real estate transactions, and liquor licenses; registering voters and conducting primary, general, and county elections; and operating Motor Vehicle Divisions throughout the state for titling and registering motor vehicles and issuing license plates.

**Local Government Impact**

Clerks may see an increase in workload as a result of the bill. Clerks are not currently required to redact social security numbers from public documents, although about one-third of clerks do so now upon request of the SSN holder. A fee is not charged for this service. Clerks may incur costs in procuring the equipment to automatically redact the number; however, the bill does not require clerks' offices to do so.

The bill authorizes clerks to charge \$11 for the first page of a form on which a redaction is made, and \$5 for each additional page. In general, fees collected are based on the type of document being filed and the number of pages. Historically, the number of documents containing SSN's filed with a clerk has been small -- about 5 percent of documents filed with a clerk contain a SSN. The bill is likely to increase clerks' fee revenue by a minimal amount.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 6, 2014, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 7, 2014, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Local Affairs      Clerk and Recorders      Counties      Revenue