From:	The California League of Independent Notaries
То:	SoS Rulemaking
-	[EXTERNAL] IN SUPPORT - PROPOSED RULE 2.4 - ITEMIZATION AND INVOICING OF NOTARY PUBLIC AND SERVICE FEES CHARGED
Date:	Tuesday, December 26, 2023 1:18:43 PM



Dec 26, 2023

Colorado Department of State Red Rocks Conference Room, 5th Floor 1700 Broadway Denver, CO 80290

RE: IN SUPPORT - PROPOSED RULE 2.4 - ITEMIZATION AND INVOICING OF NOTARY PUBLIC AND SERVICE FEES CHARGED

Dear Secretary Griswold,

I am writing to express our support for the proposed rule requiring notaries public to inform clients of costs charged prior to meeting with them and to issue an invoice/receipt after services have been performed. We believe that implementing such a rule is not only in the best interest of the public but also a prudent measure to protect notaries from potential accusations of overcharging.

First and foremost, transparency in cost disclosure prior to the provision of notarial services is essential for the well-being of the public. By ensuring that customers are aware of the associated costs beforehand, the proposed rule empowers individuals to make informed decisions and prevents any potential misunderstandings or disputes regarding fees after the fact. This transparency fosters trust in the notarial process and contributes to a positive experience for those seeking notarial services.

Additionally, the issuance of invoices/receipts post-service is a fundamental practice that serves the interests of both the notary public and the client. Providing a detailed breakdown of fees charged ensures accountability and clarity, enabling governing bodies to verify the accuracy of the billed amount. This practice not only enhances the service notaries provide but also safeguards them from unfounded allegations of overcharging, as clients will have documented proof of the agreed-upon fees.

Further, this rule promotes consistency and standardization of notarial services across the state, reducing the likelihood of discrepancies in fee structures. Colorado businesses and residents will benefit from a more predictable and uniform system, fostering a sense of fairness and equity in the delivery of notarial services.

The implementation of this rule aligns with the broader goals of consumer protection and regulatory transparency. It reinforces the notion that notaries public are committed to ethical conduct and best business practices. By establishing clear guidelines for cost communication and documentation, the rule will contribute to the overall integrity of the office of notary public and elevate the level of professionalism within the industry.

In conclusion, we support the adoption of the proposed rule. We believe this rule is a step in the right direction towards enhancing transparency, promoting trust, and protecting notaries from undue accusations, <u>disciplinary action and legal liability</u>. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at:

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Miller, President The California League of Independent Notaries