

The Washington Legislature did not raise the recording fee for assignments or substitutions of deeds of trust until recently. For many years those documents were exempt from the surcharges that make up most of a recording fee and cost only about \$18 to record. During the 2025 regular legislative session, lawmakers adopted **House Bill 1858**. HB-1858 struck the exemption for “assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust” from RCW 36.22.185 and RCW 36.22.250, so these documents are now subject to the \$100 covenant-homeownership program assessment and the \$183 document-recording surcharge [lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov](http://lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov/lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov). The bill was approved by the House and Senate, signed by the governor on April 21 2025, and chaptered as Chapter 100, Laws of 2025. It specifically states that it becomes effective **July 27 2025** lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov. Because the exemption was removed, the cost to record assignments or substitutions of deeds of trust jumped from \$18 to roughly \$301 per first page—nearly the full standard recording fee tnguyenlaw.com. Counties across Washington published new fee schedules reflecting this change; for example, Lewis County explains that the 2025 session’s HB 1858 “increases the recording fee to \$301.00” for assignments or substitutions of trust deeds and that the increase took effect **July 27 2025** lewiscountywa.gov. Therefore, **the Washington State Legislature raised the recording fee on assignments and substitutions of deeds of trust when HB 1858 took effect on July 27 2025.**