

What is the specific statutory authority (Utah Code citation) for the disposition permit/fee?

Utah Code 26-4-29(5):

“(5) The medical examiner may charge a fee, pursuant to Section [63J-1-504](#), to recover the costs of fulfilling the duties of the medical examiner described in this section.”

What is the legislation (2018 General Session?), including line number, that established the increase to the permit/fee’s present level of \$207?

H.B. 8 - - see attached pages 130 and 134 of H.B. 8, enrolled copy, yellow highlighted portions, for the two elements of the fee that add up to \$207.

What is the purpose for the fee’s increase to its current level of \$207?

According to the Department of Health, the purpose of the fee is to provide funding for needs in the Office of the Medical Examiner (OME) identified in the building block (See page 3 of the linked document: <https://le.utah.gov/interim/2018/pdf/00001006.pdf>. It is the Office of the Medical Examiner Building Block Request, **item BA** prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst for the Social Services Appropriations Committee). Also, on this sheet, in the far right column, please note the Legislative Fiscal Analyst’s response RE Alternative Funding Sources.

The Department of Health also reported that on the final day of the Social Services Appropriations Committee deliberations, Representative Redd made a motion to raise the cremation fee to **\$200** and the death certificate fee to \$30, and give the funds to the Office of the Medical Examiner, then remove **item BA** from the ongoing list. This motion passed with a vote of 14-0-2 (To view the motion, go to page 7 of the minutes of that Social Services Appropriations Committee meeting, linked here: <https://le.utah.gov/interim/2018/pdf/00001902.pdf>).

The **\$7** fee is for a “Burial Transit Permit” and must accompany remains to their destination; here is a link to the permit application: <http://www.utahsimplecremations.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/larkin-burial-transit.pdf>.

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst then prepared H.B. 8 with fee increases for cremation and death certificates, as supported by the Committee, which was then passed by the Legislature.