

SENATE BILL NO. 5

INTRODUCED BY E. BUTTREY

BY REQUEST OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CLARIFYING THAT ELECTRONIC RECORDS FOR A COUNTY MAY BE STORED AT A LOCATION SEPARATE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK; AND AMENDING SECTION SECTIONS 7-5-2131 AND 7-5-2133, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 7-5-2131, MCA, is amended to read:

**"7-5-2131. Records to be available to public.** ~~The~~ (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the books, records, and accounts must be kept at the office of the clerk and must be open for public inspection free of charge.

(2) Electronic records accessible from the office of the clerk may be stored at a separate location AS LONG AS THOSE RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FREE OF CHARGE."

**SECTION 2. SECTION 7-5-2133, MCA, IS AMENDED TO READ:**

**"7-5-2133. Convenience fee for electronic county government services.** (1) ~~The~~ Except as provided in 7-5-2131(2), the county may charge a convenience fee and may allow county departments to collect the convenience fee on selected electronic government services in order to provide funding for the support and furtherance of electronic government services.

(2) As used in this section, "convenience fee" means a fee charged to recover the costs of providing electronic government services."

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