



2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 361

November 3, 2011 - Introduced by Representatives RICHARDS, BERCEAU, TURNER and WYNN, cosponsored by Senators HOLPERIN, C. LARSON and T. CULLEN. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Ethics.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 16.61 (2) (b) 1. of the statutes; **relating to:** management and
2 preservation of records and correspondence of members of the legislature.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the Public Records Board supervises the state's public records management and preservation program and may set retention schedules for public records. Except as specifically authorized by law, no public record may be disposed of without the approval of the board. With the approval of the board and compliance with statutory standards, a state officer or agency may transfer public records to microfilm format, and subject to standards prescribed in rules promulgated by the Department of Administration, may transfer public records to optical disk or electronic format. If applicable standards for transfer of the records are adhered to, records reproductions in the authorized formats have the same status for evidentiary purposes as the original records. In lieu of disposal, the board may transfer selected public records to the State Historical Society for preservation. Currently, none of these records management and preservation procedures apply to records and correspondence of members of the legislature.

This bill deletes the current exception for records and correspondence of members of the legislature, thereby making the records and correspondence subject to the public records management and preservation program.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

