

February 11, 2020

Support: HB42 – Public Information Act – Applications for Inspection – Responses and Time Limits

Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee:

Please consider my support for the House Bill 42. The fact that our State has the most relaxed requirements within the country speaks volumes of the weaknesses in the present law. With digitized records for most documents, emails, etc. there is little or no reason that any agency needs 30 days to comply with a PIA request.

When malfeasance within government is occurring, time is important. Thirty days permits an incredible amount of time to search for, find, and destroy applicable documents.

One only has to review the recent and appalling news reports of government corruption, malfeasance, and insider dealing within various levels of government in our State to recognize the need for this legislation. Better government demands it.

I respectfully request that you vote in favor of HB42.

Sincerely yours,

Scott Hall