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March 11, 2024

BILL: SB0997 Health - Vital Records - Electronic Filing and Storage

COMMITTEE: Finance

POSITION: Letter of Information

While the Archives supports the creation of a searchable electronic database of vital records, we would like to express our concern about the lack of language in SB997 addressing the permanent disposition of the electronic records. Historic records no longer needed for the daily business of their creating agencies are transferred to the State Archives for permanent retention and access. The wording of SB997, that the database will be maintained by the Secretary of Health, does not indicate that these records will be transferred to the Archives for permanent retention and access. Language should be added to the bill which makes clear that the database will be added to the Department of Health's retention schedule for eventual transfer to the custody of the State Archives.