

whatever form or mode the records may be, unless the auditors access to the record is specifically prohibited and limited by federal or state law, which it will be when this law passes. In Section 5 all final audit reports issued by the auditor of Public Accounts shall be maintained permanently as a public record in the office of the public.. Auditor of Public Accounts. So the final report will be public. But then if you look on line 20 of Section 5, it says, working papers and other audit files maintained by the Auditor of Public Accounts are not public records and are exempt from those sections. And those sections are the Public Records Laws. So if this bill passes it does exempt all those papers from the Public Records Law. I'm not trying to be confusing and I know it's a confusing subject, it was confusing to me which is why when the bill came up on General File on consent calendar and I had some questions I started looking at this bill and I started talking to people and the auditor and finding out what all this means. And the reason I am putting in this amendment is to just basically say that this section, which is this section of the bill, only applies to audits of the Legislature and, Senator Hall, it does say the Legislative Council, the Exec Board of the Legislative Council and the members of the Legislature, which is all those areas of concern. It will seal off our working papers when you adopt this bill, but it exempts out everything else that is not...that is already specifically written into the Public Records Law. We already have access to those, we have it by statute in the Public Records Law. I'm the one who's trying to maintain that access to those working papers. Senator Hall's bill seeks to shut down those working papers and keep them from the public access. So my first amendment was to change that language so that that wouldn't be the case, so that it would narrow that, so that it wouldn't shut down those working papers that are outside the Public Records Law. Senator Hall's bill is written so broadly it takes away all of those...all of those working papers from the public, from the press, from anyone who would want to look at it. What this amendment would do is just limit that shut down of access to the Legislature. And I understand that it would be difficult to vote for this because it would seem self-serving. I guess your chance was at the amendment previous to this, to narrow the scope of this bill to just the public records areas that are already named in statute, and obviously you didn't want to support that, the majority of this body did not want to support that. So I'm giving those an opportunity here to those who are...Senator Hall keeps bringing up his concern with the Attorney General's Opinion and Judge Blue's