

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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the sections of law are so you have some idea of what we're changing. The first section of the bill is where the session laws and journal are published by the Clerk of the Legislature. We do that internally. We prepare those. We get them published. This gives us the authority to do them in print form or electronic form or both. That is our internal control here. The amendment that I have says that the Clerk shall distribute two copies of the session laws and the journal to each person who is a member of the Legislature at the time in which the laws were enacted. But here's the crucial language and this will occur throughout: The Clerk shall provide to the Secretary of State for distribution pursuant to the other sections of law. We print them. We give them to our members. And then we give them to the Secretary of State. The session laws are then given to...the counties have options to them. The concern inside the Exec Board, and this is probably also to remind the Exec Board members, were we just don't want to get rid of the print copies altogether. We want to have some control and we just don't want somebody to say, I am sorry, here is a diskette, here is all the laws, and make this transition without any check or without any period of people getting used to it, and we don't want to say, look, you've all got to change at once. So what we've added through this amendment that I am proposing now is that the journals and the session laws will be made available in print or electronic format upon the recommendation of the Clerk of the Legislature and the approval of the Exec Board, so that we're not going to make this transition without the Legislature. Right now the Secretary of State, for example, may be one of which people trust and realize that they may do a good job, but what happens with the next Secretary of State, or what happens if there is an action that we think is not consistent with what the needs of the counties are or what the needs of some of these other subdivisions are, the other agencies of government. So what's going to happen is we'll make a recommendation. A recommendation will be made to the Exec Board and they will approve whether the session laws and journals are done in book form and electronic form or one or either. And you can think, if you look at it from one point of view, we could have doubled the cost because you could make it available in electronic form and book form. Now that may have to happen for a period of time as people get used to it. We have the same things with the bill books. There is a period of time when we still like to have