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SENATOR PREISTER: ...about protecting the waters of the state from pollution...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...and about getting the information to local zoning boards, who are also trying to accomplish the same goal.

SENATOR CUDABACK: I'm sorry. Time, Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. You've heard the opening on AM3168. Before we go to discussion of that amendment, the croissants being handed out are in honor of a birthday, and that birthday is Senator Brashear's, so let's all give Senator Brashear a big hand here. There are no candles on them, but happy birthday, Kermit. On with discussion of AM3168, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I support Senator Preister's amendment, but I have a question to ask him about the element of this...of whether or not this is a public...a matter of public record. Senator Preister, did the DEQ say that all of the material that is kept on file at the department constitutes a public record or is available to the public?

SENATOR PREISTER: Senator Chambers, yes, I'll answer your question, and, yes, that is my understanding, that in this section of law, as well as their other documents, that those are public documents.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, by stating that this material will be kept on file, that puts it into the category of documents that are available to the public.

SENATOR PREISTER: We're attempting to ensure that it is there, that it's updated, that it's current, and that it is available to the public. That is accurate.