

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Clem, Conger, Matthews, Sheehan, Smith J., Holvey, Whisnant

Nays: 0

Exc.: Cameron

Prepared By: Jan Nordlund, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/5, 5/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Legislative Administrator to maintain reports of witnesses who testify on measures and post reports on the legislative website.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Transparency and accountability
- Current posting capability
- Effort to redesign website and electronic bill documentation
- Completeness of witness sheet
- Audio tape log

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, if an individual is seeking information regarding witnesses on a measure before a legislative committee, he or she may request a recording log from the Legislative Administration's Committee Services Office. The contents of the recording log include the following information: members present, all motions and votes, names of all witness, and reference to the recording log to serve as an index to the sound recording. The recording logs are not available on the Legislative Administration website and are not statutorily required to be distributed by the Legislative Administrator. The audio recordings of all committee meetings are available on the website, as well as written testimony submitted for the record.

Committee Services Office provides a witness registration form at every public hearing. Anyone wanting to testify is asked to record the following information on the form: name, organization or county of residence, whether they live more than 100 miles from the meeting location, position on the bill, and whether they are submitting written testimony. This form is used by the chair to call forward witnesses and by the committee assistance when creating the recording log. The witness sheet is not part of the official record or posted on the website.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.