

HOUSE BILL NO. 377

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

Introduced: 3/9/26

Referred: Community and Regional Affairs, State Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to public records; relating to managing and preserving audio and
2 video recordings; and relating to fees for the inspection and copying of public records
3 under the Alaska Public Records Act."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** AS 40.21.150(6) is amended to read:

6 (6) "record" means any document, paper, book, letter, drawing, map,
7 plat, photo, photographic file, motion picture film, audio or video recording,
8 microfilm, microphotograph, exhibit, magnetic or paper tape, punched card, electronic
9 record, or other document of any other material, regardless of physical form or
10 characteristic, developed or received under law or in connection with the transaction
11 of official business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by an agency or a
12 political subdivision, as evidence of the organization, function, policies, decisions,
13 procedures, operations, or other activities of the state or political subdivision or
14 because of the informational value in them; the term does not include library and

1 museum material developed or acquired and preserved solely for reference, historical,
2 or exhibition purposes, extra copies of documents preserved solely for convenience of
3 reference, or stocks of publications and processed documents;

4 * **Sec. 2.** AS 40.25.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

5 (j) Notwithstanding (c) of this section, a municipality may require a requester
6 to pay the municipality's actual personnel costs to perform the search and copying
7 tasks to complete a request for production of a record. The personnel costs may not
8 exceed the actual salary and benefit costs for the personnel time required to perform
9 the search and copying tasks. The requester shall pay the costs before the records are
10 disclosed, and the municipality may require payment in advance of the search.

11 * **Sec. 3.** AS 40.25.220(3) is amended to read:

12 (3) "public records" means books, papers, files, audio or video
13 recordings, accounts, writings, including drafts and memorializations of
14 conversations, and other items, regardless of format or physical characteristics, that
15 are developed or received by a public agency, or by a private contractor for a public
16 agency, and that are preserved for [THEIR] informational value or as evidence of the
17 organization or operation of the public agency; "public records" does not include
18 proprietary software programs.