

HARMONIZING PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS PROPOSED LEGISLATION

What You Need to Know

- The bill will correct the flaw in public records law that burdens municipalities and taxpayers.
- The bill will allow recovery of costs to prepare public records for any method of inspection or receipt.
- The bill will promote equitable and transparent records management.

What's the Problem?

- Citizens have the right to inspect any record created or received regarding municipal business, with custodians permitted to only charge fees for producing printed copies.
- If a citizen asks to inspect the record in person, there is no accounting for the staff time and cost needed to gather and review the record and potentially redact protected information.
- Instead of the requestor assuming the expense, the current law burdens taxpayers with the cost of staff time and labor.

What's the Solution?

- **SUPPORT** this proposed legislation to preserve record transparency while allowing for recovery of costs to prepare records for inspection, regardless of how that inspection occurs.

