

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5892

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As of February 23, 2001

**Title:** An act relating to local government records.

**Brief Description:** Funding local records management.

**Sponsors:** Senators Patterson, McCaslin, Brown, Sheahan, Horn, Haugen and Gardner; by request of Secretary of State.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** State & Local Government: 2/26/01.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Staff:** Diane Smith (786-7410)

**Background:** Each instrument recorded with the county auditor is charged \$1 for the archives and record management account in the state treasury. This surcharge is used solely for archiving local government records. The authority to make this auditor's surcharge expires June 30, 2001.

A different surcharge of \$20 is imposed by state agencies for unpaid taxes or liabilities. This surcharge is imposed upon the judgment debtor in the form of a penalty in addition to the \$5 filing fee. It is called the judgment debtor surcharge.

The archives and records management account consists of the judgment debtor surcharge, the archives and records management surcharge and the collected charges paid by state agencies for the services they receive from the Division of Archives and Records Management.

**Summary of Bill:** The auditor's authority to make the \$1 surcharge for archives and records management is continued without expiration. The provision of access to the archived records is added to the permitted uses of the account.

The Division of Archives and Records Management must establish a competitive process to solicit and prioritize proposals from local governments for projects to be funded by any surplus funds. The sources of the surplus funds are the judgment debtor surcharge and the surcharge for archives and records management.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect on June 30, 2001.