

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 1431

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Modifying exemptions relating to real estate appraisals.

Sponsors: Representatives Bergquist, Holy and S. Hunt.

House Committee on State Government
Senate Committee on Government Operations & Security

Background:

The Public Records Act (PRA) requires state and local agencies to make their written records available to the public for inspection and copying upon request, unless the information fits into one of the various specific exemptions. The stated policy of the PRA favors disclosure and requires narrow application of the listed exemptions.

Real property appraisals regarding the acquisition of property made for or by an agency are exempt from disclosure. The exemption lasts until the prospective sale or project is abandoned or all property related to the appraisal has been sold or acquired. The exemption does not apply to appraisals regarding the acquisition of property for the purpose of providing relocation housing.

Summary:

Documents related to an agency's real estate transactions are exempt from disclosure if the documents are prepared for determining a site or acquisition of property by lease or purchase when public knowledge of such consideration would likely cause an increase in the property price. Documents prepared to consider the minimum selling price of property offered to be sold or leased is exempt when public knowledge would likely cause a decrease in the price. These exemptions include records prepared for the executive session of an agency's governing body.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	78	20
Senate	47	1

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective: July 24, 2015