

Bill No. 15-0579
Review and Preliminary Comment by Susan Lugo, Territorial Archivist
March 7, 2016

RE: COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF GOVERNMENT COLLECTIONS

Suggestion: Insert the word “House” before “Collections” to differentiate the items from those which are subject to the Territorial Archives records management and archives management authority.

National Conference of State Legislators
State Capitol Restoration and Preservation
Preservation Boards/Commissions/Committees

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/about-state-legislatures/state-capitol-restoration-and-preservation.aspx>

This NCSL Web page provides links to several state capitol commissions (VT, MA, TX, TN, MN, MI, OR, among others). *See, especially*, the following provisions of TX Government Code, Title 4 Executive Branch, Subpart D History, Culture and Education, Chapter 443 State Preservation Board:

- §443.009 re “Offices, Records, and Documents in the Capitol; and
- subsection (c) under §443.017 re “Transfer of Historical Items” which states the provision “does not apply to records in the custody of the General Land Office or the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.”

Other general comments:

1. Distinguish the collection authority being established from that of VISHPO and the Territorial Archives and Territorial Museums under DPNR/DLAM.
2. What is the term of service for Committee membership?
3. Can any Committee member – including the Curator – be Chairman?
4. Is the Curator accountable to the Committee as well as the Governor?
5. Some provisions may be so specific as to be procedurally proscriptive, limiting or outdated should curation management techniques, collection formats, government agency responsibilities and/or territorial museum collecting policies evolve or come into play. An example of this is the need to include electronic recordkeeping and storage best practices. It may better serve the legislation’s intent to state a purpose/mission/collecting philosophy and then direct the Committee to establish and publically promulgate policies and detailed procedures to support those visions/philosophy.
6. What provisions are being considered for sustainable funding for (a) environmentally-sound storage; (b) research accessibility; (c) maintenance and cleaning; (d) conservation; and (e) valuation for insurance purposes?
7. Add a requirement for a disaster plan to be approved and updated regularly.
8. Who has authority to approve items for reproduction? Does the printing prohibition include exhibit panels? Projected images? Electronic images? Posters? Booklets?

9. You may wish to include in textiles a mention of flags, banners, etc.
10. How does the Curator/Committee interact with DPNR/DLAM's museum authority/responsibilities? With VISHPO collections? May each loan to the other?

RE: GOVERNOR'S PAPERS

National Governor's Association – Center for Best Practices

Managing Gubernatorial Records: A Guide for Governors

<http://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/OMCTMANAGEGUBNRECORDS.PDF>

See, especially, pp. 7 and 14 for a discussion on official vs. personal records.

Lessons Learned on Transitioning Out

<http://www.nga.org/cms/home/news-room/webcast-center/col2-content/main-content-list/lessons-learned-on-transitioning.html>

See, especially, the section on “Related Resources on the Transition Out”

Article: NGA Launches Governor's Legacy Project

http://www.nga.org/cms/home/news-room/news-releases/page_2004/col2-content/main-content-list/title_nga-launches-governors-legacy-project.html

Transitioning Out: Retaining Records on Documenting the Governor's Legacy

<http://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/1201TORECORDS.PDF>

Guide to Records of the Governor's Office in the New York State Archives

http://www.archives.nysed.gov/common/archives/files/res_topics_legal_govguide.pdf

See, Exhibits E, F and G.

Center on the American Governor (Rutgers University)

An Inventory of Gubernatorial Archives in the 50 States

<http://governors.rutgers.edu/on-governors/us-governors/an-inventory-of-gubernatorial-archives-in-the-50-states/>

The Center for Public Integrity

State Integrity 2012 - Grading the Nation: How accountable is your state?

See, How Does Your State Rank for Integrity, and then sort on “Public Access to Information”

<http://www.publicintegrity.org/2015/11/09/18822/how-does-your-state-rank-integrity>