## **HOUSE BILL No. 5324**

December 5, 1989, Introduced by Rep. Niederstadt and referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties.

A bill to amend sections 2136, 2137, 2138, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2917, and 8344 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, entitled as amended

"Revised judicature act of 1961,"

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section 2137 as amended by Act No. 308 of the Public Acts of 1986, section 2917 as amended by Act No. 50 of the Public Acts of 1988, and section 8344 as amended by Act No. 43 of the Public Acts of 1984, being sections 600.2136, 600.2137, 600.2138, 600.2146, 600.2147, 600.2148, 600.2917, and 600.8344 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Section 1. Sections 2136, 2137, 2138, 2146, 2147, 2148,
- 2 2917, and 8344 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, section
- 3 2:37 as amended by Act No. 308 of the Public Acts of 1986,
- 4 section 2917 as amended by Act No. 50 of the Public Acts of 1988,

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- I and section 8344 as amended by Act No. 43 of the Public Acts of
- 2 1984, being sections 600.2136, 600.2137, 600.2138, 600.2146,
- 3 600.2147, 600.2148, 600.2917, and 600.8344 of the Michigan
- 4 Compiled Laws, are amended to read as follows:
- 5 Sec. 2136. (1) Any copy of the records, books or papers A
- 6 COPY OF A RECORD, BOOK, OR PAPER belonging to or in the custody
- 7 of -any- A public, college, or university library, or of -any- AN
- 8 incorporated library society, -when- IF accompanied by a sworn
- 9 statement by the librarian or other -officer or person in charge
- 10 -thereof- OF THE RECORD, BOOK, OR PAPER, that the -same- COPY is
- 11 a true copy of the original record, book or paper in his OR HER
- 12 custody, shall be admissible as evidence in -all courts and
- 13 proceedings A COURT OR PROCEEDING in like manner and to the same
- 14 extent as the original would be if produced.
- 15 (2) Any photostat copy of the records, books, papers or
- 16 documents A REPRODUCTION OF A RECORD, BOOK, PAPER, OR DOCUMENT
- 17 belonging to or in the custody of -any- A public, college, or
- 18 university library, or of -any- AN incorporated library society,
- 19 -when- PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS MEDIA ACT, IF accompanied by a
- 20 sworn statement made by the librarian or other officer or
- 21 person in charge -thereof- OF THE RECORD, BOOK, PAPER, OR
- 22 DOCUMENT, stating that the -copy REPRODUCTION is made under his
- 23 OR HER supervision or that of a duly authorized representative,
- 24 and that nothing has been done to alter or change the original,
- 25 and that the same is a REPRODUCTION IS true photostat copy
- 26 of TO the original record, book, paper, or document in his OR
- 27 HER custody, -shall be- IS admissible as evidence in -all courts

- I and proceedings A COURT OR PROCEEDING in like manner as the
- 2 original would be if produced.
- 3 (3) For making and certifying -such copies A COPY UNDER
- 4 SUBSECTION (1), a fee -of- MAY BE CHARGED. IF THE COPY IS A PHO-
- 5 TOCOPY, THE FEE SHALL NOT EXCEED 25 cents. -, and for FOR
- 6 making and certifying each photostat copy REPRODUCTION UNDER
- 7 SUBSECTION (2) a fee of \$1.00, may be charged. IF THE REPRO-
- 8 DUCTION IS A PHOTOCOPY, THE FEE SHALL NOT EXCEED \$1.00 and a fur-
- 9 ther charge may be made of 10 cents per folio and 50 cents per
- 10 -photostat- sheet for -copies PHOTOCOPIES actually made.
- 11 (4) Anyone who shall certify A PERSON WHO CERTIFIES
- 12 falsely in regard to any of the foregoing copies shall be UNDER
- 13 SUBSECTION (!) OR (2) IS guilty of a felony and, upon conviction
- 14 thereof in any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be subject
- 15 to- PUNISHABLE BY the same -penalties PENALTY provided by stat-
- 16 ute for perjury.
- 17 Sec. 2137. (1) If a public officer -has photographed,
- 18 microphotographed, or filmed all or any part of the REPRODUCES
- 19 PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS MEDIA ACT court records kept by him or
- 20 her, -in a manner and on film or paper that complies with the
- 21 minimum standards of quality approved for photographic records by
- 22 the microfilm laboratory of the department of management and
- 23 budget and published in the Michigan administrative code, and the
- 24 photographs, microphotographs, or films are placed in conven-
- 25 iently accessible files and provisions made for preserving,
- 26 examining, and using the same, the officer may offer the
- 27 original records from which the photographs, microphotographs,

- 1 or films have been made, or any part thereof, to the department
- 2 of state for placement in the state archives. If the department
- 3 of state accepts the offer within 30 days, the court shall trans-
- 4 fer the records to that department. If the department of state
- 5 does not accept the offer within 30 days, the court may dispose
- 6 of or destroy the records in accordance with THE MANNER PRO-
- 7 VIDED FOR STATE AGENCIES UNDER sections 285 and 287 of the man-
- 8 agement and budget act, Act No. 431 of the Public Acts of 1984,
- 9 being sections 18.1285 and 18.1287 of the Michigan Compiled Laws,
- 10 and section 5 of Act No. 271 of the Public Acts of 1913, as
- 11 amended, being section 399.5 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The
- 12 record of a court shall not be disposed of or destroyed until the
- 13 record has been in the custody of the court for -at least NOT
- 14 LESS THAN 6 years.
- 15 (2) In -all counties A COUNTY OR PROBATE COURT DISTRICT in
- 16 which the county board OR BOARDS of commissioners makes provi-
- 17 sions for the microphotographing of PASS A RESOLUTION OR RESOLU-
- 18 TIONS FOR REPRODUCING records PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS MEDIA ACT,
- 19 the judge of probate may cause the records of the probate court
- 20 to be microphotographed SO REPRODUCED. The judge of probate
- 21 shall cause a copy or a duplicate -film to be kept in a building
- 22 outside of the probate office and shall keep a copy available in
- 23 the probate office with ANY suitable equipment NECESSARY for dis-
- 24 playing the filmed record by projection to AT not less than
- 25 its original size or for preparing copies for persons entitled to
- 26 the same COPIES. The judge of probate then may order any A
- 27 record destroyed. A microphotograph or photo copy of a

- 1 microphotograph shall be REPRODUCTION PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS
- 2 MEDIA ACT IS admissible as evidence before a court, commission,
- 3 or administrative body the same as the original. The original
- 4 files FILE of AN estate proceedings PROCEEDING shall not be
- 5 destroyed until 6 years have elapsed from the date of filing of
- 6 the discharge of the fiduciary or 10 years have elapsed from the
- 7 filing of the last document, whichever date occurs first.
- 8 (3) A court of record other than the district court may
- 9 order the destruction of A court reporter or recorder -notes,
- 10 tapes, and recordings NOTE, TAPE, OR RECORDING 15 years after
- 11 the date that the note, tape, or recording was made for -all- A
- 12 felony -cases CASE and 10 years after the date that the note,
- 13 tape, or recording was made for -all ANY other -cases CASE.
- 14 The ONE YEAR AFTER A TRANSCRIPT OF A NOTE, TAPE, OR RECORDING
- 15 IS FILED WITH THE COURT, THE court may order the destruction of
- 16 notes, tapes, and recordings which have been transcribed and
- 17 filed with the court I year after the date of the filing of the
- 18 transcript THE NOTE, TAPE, OR RECORDING. If a transcript of a
- 19 trial or other proceeding in a court of record other than the
- 20 district court is ordered other than for filing in the case file,
- 21 the court reporter or recorder also shall prepare and shall file
- 22 a certified copy of the transcript in the case file at the
- 23 expense of the person ordering the transcript unless a copy has
- 24 been filed with the court or unless the chief judge of the court
- 25 orders otherwise in an order filed in the case file. As used in
- 26 this subsection, "felony case" does not include proceedings in a
- 27 case that occur before arraignment on information or indictment

- or PROCEEDINGS in a case in which the defendant is not convicted of a felony.
- 3 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3), a judicial circuit
- 4 of the circuit court may order the destruction of its files and
- 5 records in any A case in which action has not been taken during
- 6 the 25 years immediately preceding the order of destruction. The
- 7 following procedures shall apply prior to BE FOLLOWED BEFORE
- 8 the issuance of an order of destruction of circuit court files
- 9 and records:
- 10 (a) The judgment or decree, if any, in each case shall be
- 11 -microfilmed- REPRODUCED PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS MEDIA ACT, or
- 12 separated and retained, and THE ORIGINAL OR REPRODUCTION SHALL BE
- 13 made available for public inspection.
- (b) The circuit court shall offer the files and records
- 15 subject to the order of destruction to the Michigan historical
- 16 commission established by Act No. 271 of the Public Acts of 1913,
- 17 as amended, being sections 399.1 to 399.9 of the Michigan
- 18 Compiled Laws, or an historical commission created pursuant to
- 19 Act No. 213 of the Public Acts of 1957, as amended, being sec-
- 20 tions 399.171 and 399.172 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. If the
- 21 historical commission accepts the offer within 30 days, the cir-
- 22 cuit court shall transfer the files and records to the historical
- 23 commission. If the historical commission does not accept the
- 24 offer within 30 days, the circuit court shall issue an order of
- 25 destruction.
- 26 (5) Photographs, microphotographs, or films A REPRODUCTION
- 27 of a record -photographed, microphotographed, or filmed, MADE as

- I provided by this or any other law , shall have HAS the same
- 2 force and effect as the originals thereof ORIGINAL would have
- 3 had and shall be treated as -originals AN ORIGINAL for the
- 4 purpose of their admissibility in evidence. Duly A DULY cer-
- 5 tified or authenticated -copies COPY of the -photographs, micro-
- 6 photographs, or films REPRODUCTION shall be admitted into evi-
- 7 dence equally with the original -photographs, microphotographs,
- 8 or films REPRODUCTION.
- 9 Sec. 2138. (1) Whenever any IF A public officer perform
- 10 ing duties under this act is required or authorized by law to
- 11 record, copy, recopy, or replace -any A document, plat, paper,
- 12 written instrument, or book on file or of record in his OR,
- 13 HER office, -he- THE OFFICER may do so by -photostatic, photo-
- 14 graphic, microphotographic, microfilm or other mechanical process
- 15 which produces a clear, accurate and permanent copy or reproduc-
- 16 tion of the original document, plat, paper, written instrument or
- 17 record, in accordance with the latest standards approved for per-
- 18 manent records by the microfilm laboratory of the department of
- 19 administration and published in the administrative code PURSUANT
- 20 TO THE RECORDS MEDIA ACT.
- 21 (2) In any case where IF an original document, plat,
- 22 paper, written instrument, record, or book of record -
- 23 previously filed or of record in the office of -such- AN officer
- 24 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) is , whether because of the worn or
- 25 injured condition thereof or for any other reason, copied or
- 26 replaced by such process PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1), and where
- 27 such THE officer is required by law to certify in or on the

- 1 paper or book replacing the original so copied that the
- 2 replacement COPY OR REPLACEMENT THAT IT is a true and correct
- 3 copy of the original, a copy of -such THE certification by
- 4 -such THE officer, similarly made -and produced and included at
- 5 the end of the COPY OR replacement, shall be sufficient compli-
- 6 ance with such laws COMPLIES WITH SUCH LAW.
- 7 (3) Copies, records, reproductions and replacements, or
- 8 enlarged reproductions thereof, thus IF produced under this or
- 9 any other law, A COPY, RECORD, REPRODUCTION, OR REPLACEMENT OR AN
- 10 ENLARGED REPRODUCTION OF ANY OF THESE shall be considered as AN
- II original -copies, records, papers or books of record, for all
- 12 purposes and -shall be- IS admissible in evidence in like manner
- 13 and under the same conditions as THE original. copies,
- 14 records, papers or books of record, produced or copied in any
- 15 other manner authorized by law.
- 16 (4) Transcripts or certified copies of such copies,
- 17 records, reproductions and replacements, A TRANSCRIPT OR CERTI-
- 18 FIED COPY OF A REPRODUCTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) shall be
- 19 considered as transcripts or certified copies of the originals
- 20 A TRANSCRIPT OR CERTIFIED COPY OF THE ORIGINAL.
- 21 (5) In any case where any IF A record or replacement
- 22 -thereof OF A RECORD in the office of -any such AN officer
- 23 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) is produced by such process, any
- 24 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, A correction, alteration, indorsement,
- 25 or entry, required or authorized to be made of or on -any- AN
- 26 instrument or paper or on the record -thereof OF THE INSTRUMENT
- 27 OR PAPER, may be made by filing or inserting -copies or recopies

- 1 A COPY OR RECOPY, produced by the same process, of the pages,
- 2 page or part of the page, so corrected OR altered or on
- 3 which such indorsement or entry is made, next to the place
- 4 wherein WHERE the copy or record of such THE instrument or
- 5 paper is contained or in such other manner as -such- THE officer
- 6 -shall-deem CONSIDERS advisable or practicable.
- 7 Sec. 2146. Any A writing or record, whether in the form
- 8 of an entry in a book or otherwise, made as a memorandum of -any-
- 9 AN act, transaction, occurrence, or event -shall be- IS admissi-
- 10 ble in evidence in all trials, hearings and proceedings in any
- II cause or suit in any court, A PROCEEDING IN A COURT or before
- 12 any AN officer, arbitrators, or referees, ARBITRATOR, OR
- 13 REFEREE in proof of -said THE act, transaction, occurrence, or
- 14 event if it was made in the regular course of -any-business and
- 15 it was the regular course of -such business to make such A memo-
- 16 randum or record at the time of, such OR WITHIN A REASONABLE
- 17 TIME AFTER, THE act, transaction, occurrence, or event. or
- 18 within a reasonable time thereafter. All other OTHER circum-
- 19 stances of the making of -such THE writing or record, including
- 20 lack of personal knowledge by the entrant or maker, may be shown
- 21 to affect its weight but not its admissibility. The term
- 22 "business" shall include INCLUDES A business, profession, occu-
- 23 pation, and OR calling of every ANY kind. The lack of an
- 24 entry regarding any AN act, transaction, occurrence, or event
- 25 in -any A writing or record so proved may be received as evi-
- 26 dence that -no such THE act, transaction, occurrence, or event
- 27 did NOT, in fact, take place. Any photostatic or photographic

- 1 A reproduction of any such A writing or record shall be IS
  2 admissible in evidence in any such. A trial, hearing, or pro3 ceeding by order of the court, made within its discretion, upon
  4 motion with notice of not less than 4 days. All circumstances of
  5 the making of such photostatic or photographic. THE reproduction
  6 may be shown upon such. THE trial, hearing, or proceeding to
  7 affect the weight but not the admissibility of such. THE
  8 evidence.
- Sec. 2147. Notwithstanding any law of this state to the 10 contrary, -any person AN INDIVIDUAL, firm, association, or cor-II poration may introduce in evidence at -any- A trial or hearing 12 of any kind, before any A court, officer, arbiter, referee, 13 board, or tribunal, a black and white or colored photographic, 14 photostatic or microphotographic reproduction of -any- A busi-15 ness -records of such person RECORD OF THE INDIVIDUAL or insti-16 tution prepared or entered in regular course of business, the 17 original of which would be admissible in evidence, including 18 -all- AN existing -records RECORD and including, but not by way 19 of limitation, checks, bills, notes, acceptances and all other 20 types of commercial instruments, pass books, deposit slips and 21 statements A CHECK, BILL, NOTE, ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHER TYPE OF 22 COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENT, PASSBOOK, DEPOSIT SLIP, OR STATEMENT fur-23 nished to depositors, whether or not -such person THE INDIVIDUAL 24 or institution regularly SO reproduces as aforesaid any or all 25 of such business records. Any such THE reproduction, if accom-26 panied by the certificate of -such person- THE INDIVIDUAL or his 27 OR HER employee or agent, or -by- OF the officer, agent, or

I employee of any such THE firm, association, or corporation who 2 supervised the making of the reproduction to the effect that 3 -such- THE reproduction when made was a true, full, and complete 4 reproduction of the original, shall be received as evidence at 5 any such THE trial or hearing with the same force and effect as 6 though the original document were produced. -: Provided, how 7 ever, That HOWEVER, the court, officer, arbiter, referee, board, 8 or tribunal may in its discretion require that the original docu-9 ment be produced in evidence, and may also require the taking of 10 testimony of the person who supervised the making of -such THE II reproduction. -Such- THE reproduction -shall be- IS admissible 12 only if the party offering it -shall-have delivered DELIVERS a 13 copy of it, or OF so much -thereof OF IT as may relate to the 14 controversy, to the adverse party a reasonable time before trial, 15 unless in the opinion of the trial court, officer, arbiter, ref-16 eree, board, or tribunal the adverse party has not been unfairly 17 surprised by the failure to deliver -such THE copy. -18 Provided, however, That no such NEVERTHELESS, SUCH A reproduc-19 tion need NOT be submitted to the adverse party as herein pre-20 scribed unless the original instrument would be required to be so 21 submitted. If necessary, -such THE reproduction may be offered 22 in evidence by the use of a projector or other similar device. 23 All circumstances surrounding the making of -any such THE repro-24 duction may be shown upon any THE trial, hearing, or proceeding

25 for the purpose of affecting the weight but not the admissibility

26 of -such THE evidence.

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- Sec. 2148. (1) Any A person, firm, or corporation engaged
- 2 in business may cause any or all records kept by such THE
- 3 business to be recorded, copied, or reproduced by any photo-
- 4 graphic, photostatic, microfilm, micro card or miniature
- 5 photographic A process -which THAT correctly and accurately
- 6 copies, reproduces, or forms a medium for copying or reproducing
- 7 the original record on a film or other durable material, and
- 8 -such THE business may -thereafter THEN dispose of the original
- 9 record.
- 10 (2) Any such photographic, photostatic, microfilm,
- 11 micro card or miniature photographic A copy or reproduction MADE
- 12 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) shall be -deemed CONSIDERED be an
- 13 original record for all purposes and shall be treated as an
- 14 original record in -all-courts A COURT or administrative
- 15 -agencies AGENCY for the purpose of its admissibility in
- 16 evidence. A facsimile, exemplification, enlargement, or certi-
- 17 fied copy of any such photographic SUCH A copy or reproduction
- 18 shall, for all purposes, be -deemed- CONSIDERED a facsimile,
- 19 exemplification, or certified copy of the original record.
- 20 (3) For purposes of this section, "person" shall mean and
- 21 include any MEANS AN individual, association, firm, partnership,
- 22 company, or corporation.
- Sec. 2917. (1) In a civil action against a library or mer-
- 24 chant, an agent of the library or merchant, or an independent
- 25 contractor providing security for the library or merchant for
- 26 false imprisonment, unlawful arrest, assault, battery, libel, or
- 27 slander, if the claim -arose ARISES out of conduct involving a

- ! person suspected of removing or of attempting to remove, without
- 2 right or permission, goods held for sale in a store from the
- 3 store or library materials from a library, or of violating sec-
- 4 tion 356c or 356d of the Michigan penal code, Act No. 328 of the
- 5 Public Acts of 1931, being sections 750.356c and 750.356d of the
- 6 Michigan Compiled Laws, and if the merchant, library, or agent,
- 7 of the merchant or library OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR had proba-
- 8 ble cause for believing and did believe that the plaintiff had
- 9 committed or aided or abetted in the larceny of goods held for
- 10 sale in the store, or of library materials, or in the violation
- 11 of section 356c or 356d of Act No. 328 of the Public Acts of
- 12 1931, damages for or resulting from mental anguish or punitive,
- 13 exemplary, or aggravated damages shall not be allowed a plain-
- 14 tiff, unless it is proved that the merchant, library, or agent,
- 15 of the merchant or library OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR used
- 16 unreasonable force, detained THE plaintiff an unreasonable length
- 17 of time, acted with unreasonable disregard of THE plaintiff's
- 18 rights or sensibilities, or acted with intent to injure THE
- 19 plaintiff.
- 20 (2) As used in this section:
- 21 (a) "Library" includes a public library; a library of an
- 22 educational, historical, or eleemosynary institution or organi-
- 23 zation; a museum; an archive; and a repository of public records
- 24 or historical records, or both.
- 25 (b) "Library material" includes a plate; picture; photo-
- 26 graph; engraving; painting; drawing; map; newspaper; book;
- 27 magazine; pamphlet; broadside; manuscript; document; letter;

- I public record; microfilm; sound recording; audiovisual material;
- 2 magnetic or other tape; OPTICAL STORAGE DISC OR OTHER RECORDING
- 3 MEDIUM; electronic data processing record; artifact; and other
- 4 documentary, written, or printed material.
- 5 Sec. 8344. Except as provided in this section, not earlier
- 6 than 6 years after the entry of a judgment in a civil action,
- 7 including a summary proceeding or a civil infraction action, or
- 8 in an ordinance violation case or a criminal case in the district
- 9 court, the court may dispose of documents, records, recordings,
- 10 and notes related to that action, except the docket, in accord-
- II ance with a schedule adopted by the state administrative board.
- 12 The court may order the destruction of notes, tapes, and record-
- 13 ings -which- THAT have been transcribed and filed with the court
- 14 I year after the date of the filing of the transcript. The
- 15 docket shall be in a form which shall be adequate to reveal, in
- 16 summary form FASHION, the general nature of the action and
- 17 judgment. Thereafter AFTER THE DISPOSAL OF THE DOCUMENTS,
- 18 RECORDS, RECORDINGS, AND NOTES, the docket or a certified
- 19 microfilm copy or photographic reproduction of the docket
- 20 -shall-be- PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS MEDIA ACT IS the official
- 21 record of the action and judgment. The validity and enforceabil-
- 22 ity of a judgment are not affected by reason of the destruction
- 23 of the physical piece of paper upon which the judgment was IS
- 24 entered, but the docket itself, or a certified -microfilm copy or
- 25 photographic reproduction of the docket PURSUANT TO THE RECORDS
- 26 MEDIA ACT, -shall be IS a complete replacement of the judgment
- 27 and the records of the action. This section -shall apply-

- I APPLIES to judgments of municipal and common pleas courts
- 2 abolished after January 1, 1969, where IF the judgment was
- 3 entered or the action disposed of after January 1, 1969. This
- 4 section -shall be applicable APPLIES to actions entered in the
- 5 small claims division of the district court, except that a docket
- 6 need not be preserved or maintained after destruction of the
- 7 file.
- 8 Section 2. This amendatory act shall not take effect unless
- 9 House Bill No. 5013 of the 85th Legislature is enacted into law.