



Minnesotans for Open Government MNOG <mncogi@gmail.com>

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## For Matt Ehling: Hennepin County 2025 proposed data practices bill

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MNCOGI <mncogi@gmail.com>

Thu, Feb 20, 2025 at 9:25 PM

To: Kirk Pederson <Kirk.Pederson@hennepin.us>

Cc: Kristi A Lahti-Johnson <Kristi.Lahti-Johnson@hennepin.us>, Rebecca L Holschuh  
<Rebecca.Holschuh@hennepin.us>

Hi Kirk,

Thanks for sending the bill draft. I ran it by the board, and here are their responses:

Sec 1: We are neutral on this.

Sec 2: We would oppose this formulation of Section 2, since it classifies *all* the telephone and e-mail addresses of individuals received by a government entity as private. We believe that scope is too broad.

Sec 3: We are neutral on the minor data classification and won't oppose it. Our board is opposed to the removal of the "Tennessee Warning" requirement, though.

Sec 4: Since this changes the Official Records Act (ORA), we would oppose it for the same reasons as last time - we believe that if any of the internal particulars of how the ORA functions are altered, there need to be more stakeholders at the table to discuss — particularly the State Archives people.

If there is such a broader discussion, then the full set of inter-related ORA issues can be reviewed by everyone. We don't want to see changes happen without a big-picture discussion first.

Just so you know, there is another bill pertaining to the ORA that we are aware of -- and will support -- authored by Sen. Limmer. That bill codifies the MN Supreme Court ORA decision in *Halva v MNSCU*. We see that as a separate issue from internal changes to how the ORA itself functions in regard to document retention/document copies, etc. We'd prefer a larger stakeholder conversation about that, and would be willing to be part of one.

Thanks, and let me know if you have any questions.

Best,  
Matt Ehling  
Minnesotans for Open Government  
Reply from Minnesotans for Open Government (formerly MNCOGI)

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