

Prior law (Public Records Law, R.S. 44:1 et seq.) provided that all books, records, writings, accounts, letters and letter books, maps, drawings, photographs, cards, tapes, recordings, memoranda, and papers, and all copies, duplicates, photographs, including microfilm, or other reproductions thereof, or any other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, including information contained in electronic data processing equipment, having been used, being in use, or prepared, possessed, or retained for use in the conduct, transaction, or performance of any business, transaction, work, duty, or function which was conducted, transacted, or performed by or under the authority of the constitution or laws of the state, or by or under the authority of any ordinance, regulation, mandate, or order of any public body or concerning the receipt or payment of any money received or paid by or under the authority of the constitution or the laws of the state, are "public records". Prior law established the framework for the ready availability of public records to requesting persons, and specifically provides that it is the duty of the custodian of the public records for a public entity or agency to provide copies to persons so requesting. Prior law provided for certain exceptions, exemptions, and limitations. Prior law further specified that any exception, exemption, and limitation to the laws pertaining to public records not provided for in the Public Records Law or in the constitution shall have no effect.

New law provides an exception to the Public Records Law for security surveillance video of the capitol area and grounds and any images on security surveillance video of the capitol area and grounds regardless of format. Defines "capitol area and grounds" as the state capitol and the parking areas and grounds immediately surrounding the state capitol, the capitol annex and the parking areas and grounds immediately surrounding the capitol annex, and the pentagon barracks buildings and the parking areas and grounds immediately surrounding the pentagon barracks buildings.

Effective upon signature of governor (June 18, 2014).

(Adds R.S. 44:4(48))