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April 6, 2023

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1894

By: Cantrell and Swope of the
House

and

Kidd of the Senate

An Act relating to county records; amending 19 O.S. 2021, Section 155.7, which relates to the storage of records kept by county offices; permitting the use of digital copies as originals; permitting fee; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2021, Section 155.7, is amended to read as follows:

Section 155.7 A. County officers may have any or all records kept by any county office photographed, digitized, photostated, reproduced on film or stored on optical disk. Such film or reproducing material shall be of durable material and the device used to reproduce such records on film or other material shall be such as to accurately reproduce and perpetuate the original records in all details.

B. The photostatic copy, photograph, digital copy, photographic film or optical disk of the original records shall be deemed to be

1 an original record for all purposes, and shall be admissible in
2 evidence in all court or administrative agencies, or by the county
3 for accounts payable and inventory. A facsimile, exemplification or
4 certified copy thereof shall, for all purposes recited herein, be
5 deemed to be a transcript, exemplification or certified copy of the
6 original.

7 C. Whenever such reproduced records shall be placed in
8 conveniently accessible files and provisions made for preserving,
9 examining and using same, the county officer may certify those facts
10 to the board of county commissioners. All such records shall be
11 archived or disposed of according to the provisions of the Oklahoma
12 State Statutes and any other such restrictions as may be applicable.

13 D. The clerk of each county may elect to sign, accept, or
14 receive documents using a digital signature system.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT
17 April 6, 2023 - DO PASS
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