

Preserving the records of the E-Legislature

Minnesota Historical Society

Topics

- Goals
- Background
- Partners
- Work plan
- Products
- Next steps

Goals

- Analyze and appraise legislative systems and records
- Identify complementary resources
- Test architecture of metadata, XML and grid technology
- Pilot web site for public access
- Develop cost/benefit analysis

Background

- ER projects: TIS, ERM, DHS
- XML research
- E-government research
- PAT project
- Collaborations: legislative tapes, records retention schedules, government publications
- Adoption of XML based bill drafting system

Some general conclusions

- Collaboration
- Standards
- National cyberinfrastructure
- Rigorous appraisal and ROI: use value of electronic records
- Cultural and institutional change
- Sustainability

Partners

- MN: Revisor's Office, LRL
- CA: State Archives, State Library, Legislative Counsel
- San Diego Supercomputer Center

Work plan

- Preparation
- Research and analysis
- Testing and implementation
- Evaluation and advocacy
- Final reports and products

Products

- Project web site
- Reports and evaluations
- Best practices recommendations for other states
- Appraisal of “universe” of MN legislative records
- Cost/benefit analysis
- Ongoing partnerships ...

Next steps

- Extension approved
- Explore options
- Move forward with NDIIPP project

With some trepidation ...

- Access
- Data consultancies
- Guidelines and standards
- Outreach, education, promotion
- Preservation partner
- Larger context