

NHPRC Grant

E-Legislature Project

September 12-13, 2005



Contents

- Lifecycle of a bill in the legislature
 - Offices involved
 - Legislative documents
 - Revisor's Legislative IS systems
- Revisor XTEND System
- XML Technologies
- XTEND XML Sample



“Making Laws”

INFORMATION BRIEF, December 2002

Minnesota House of Representatives

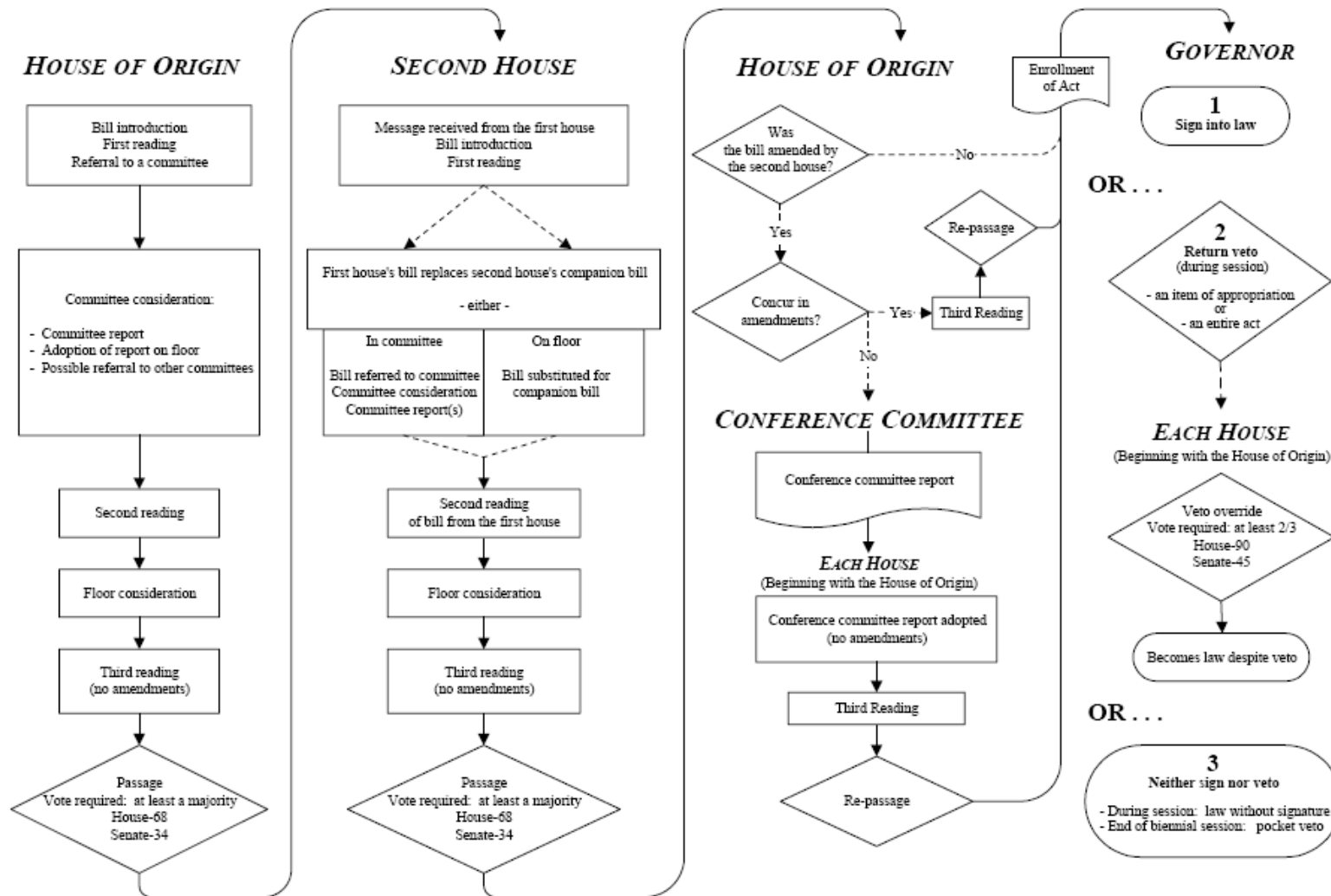
Research Department, 600 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155

Available:

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/mkglaws.pdf>

"Making Laws"

Overview of the Legislative Process



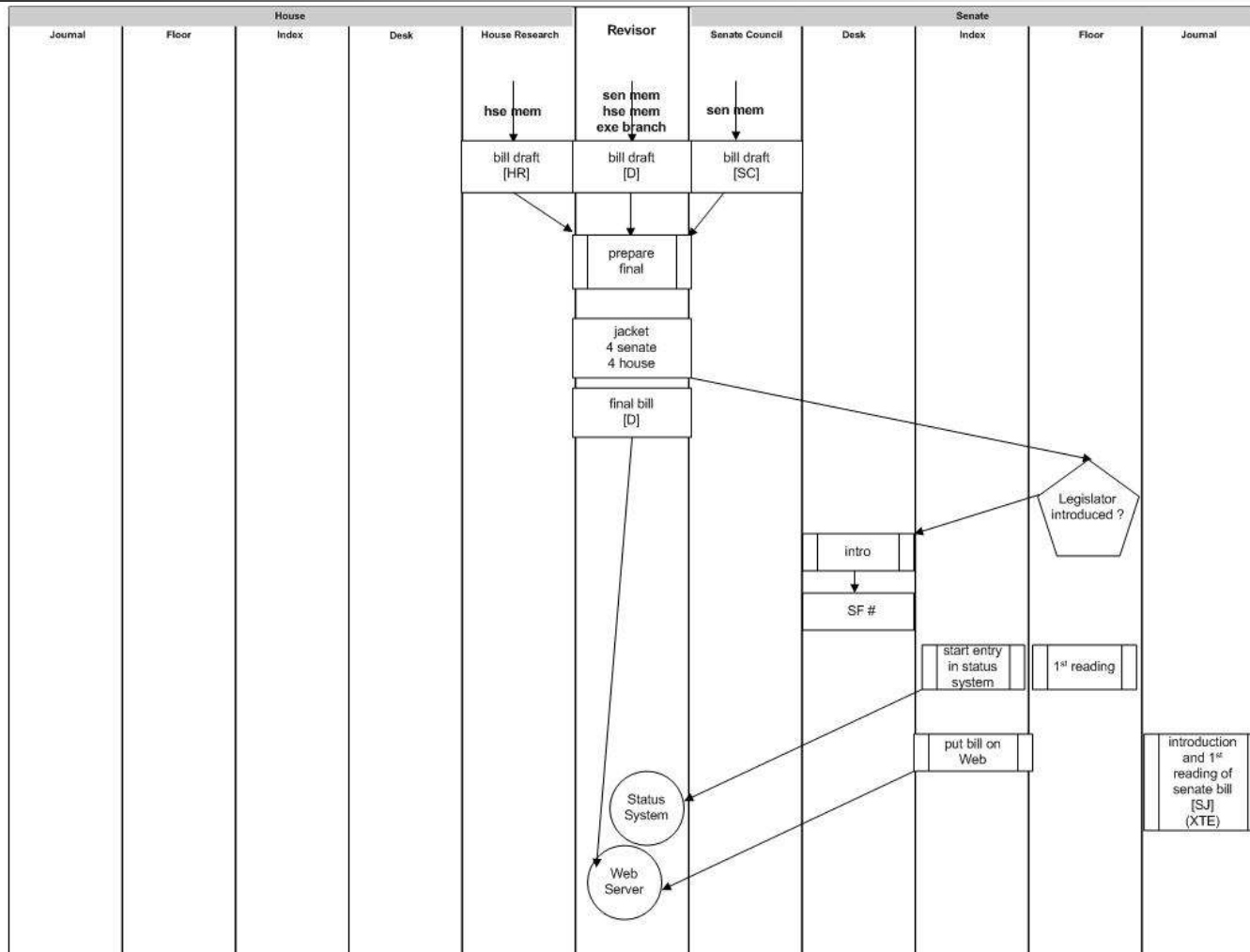
Bill Lifecycle detail

- bill_process.vsd



Bill Lifecycle

detail continue





Legislative Documents

- (Resolution - 6 types)
- Bill Draft
- Amendment
- Bill_Side_By_Side
- Committee Report
- Desk Comparison Report
- Conference Committee Report
- Engrossed Bill
- Enrollment
- Session Laws
- Session Laws Tables
- Statutes
- Statutes Tables
- ❖ Senate documents (14)
- ❖ Senate Journal & Indices (6)
- *House documents*
- *House Journal & Indices*



Revisor's Legislative IS Systems

- XTEND

- A legislative document processing system tailored to the needs of the Minnesota Legislature.

- Bill Status System

- Web accessible system to identify, track and report on current state legislation.

- Web Server

- Bill Status System
- Text: bills, unofficial engrossments, CCR
- Text, Text search, Indices:
 - Statutes
 - Session Laws
 - Admin. Rules

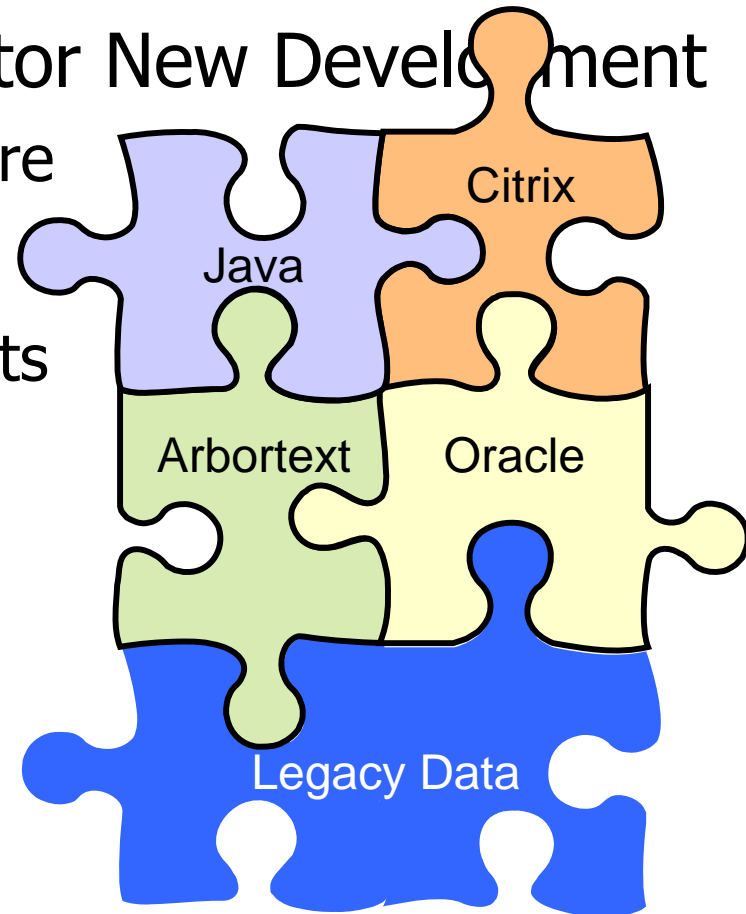


XTEND System

- A legislative document processing system tailored to the needs of the Minnesota Legislature.
- XML technologies
- Build upon base of commercial products
 - Arbortext: Epic, E3
 - Oracle 10g: Application Server, Database Server
- MN Legislature customizations coded in
 - Java
 - Arbortext ACL

XTEND Summary

- XML-Based Text Editor New Development
 - 70 users in Legislature
- Phase I:
 - Legislative Documents
 - Senate Documents
 - Doc Repositories
 - Search capabilities
 - Security Model





Technology – Inventory

■ Hardware

- HP Proliant DL380 G3
 - Intel Xeon 2.80 GHz
 - 2GB RAM
 - 2 x 36 HDD
- HP EVA3000 (SAN)
 - 550 GB now
 - > 1TB total capacity

■ Operating System

- MS Windows 2003 Server
- Citrix MetaFrame Presentation Server 3.0
- Red Hat Linux
 - Advanced Server 3.0

Technology – Inventory (cont.)

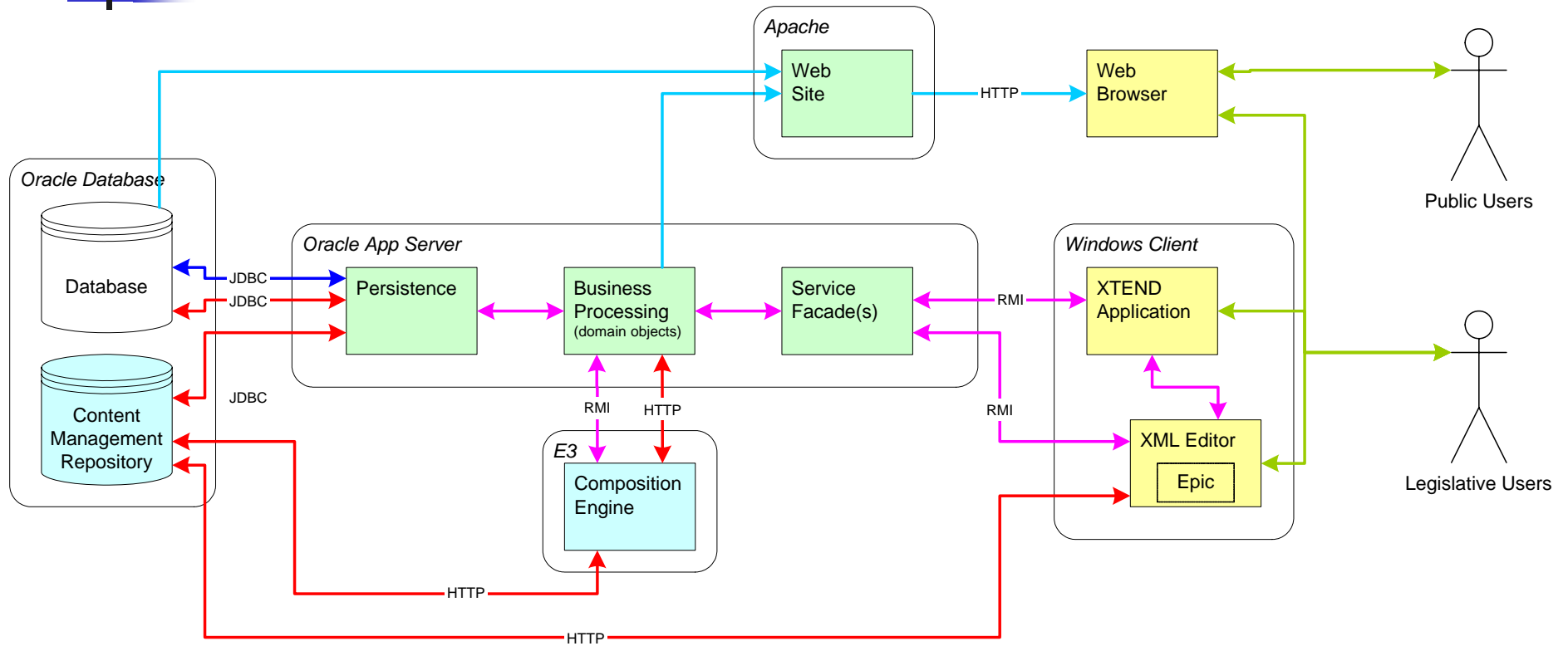
■ Commercial Apps

- Arbortext
 - Epic
 - Styer
 - Print Composer
- Oracle 10g
 - App Server
 - Database
- Open Source
 - CVS, Ant, CruiseControl
- Sparx
 - Enterprise Architect
- Elementool

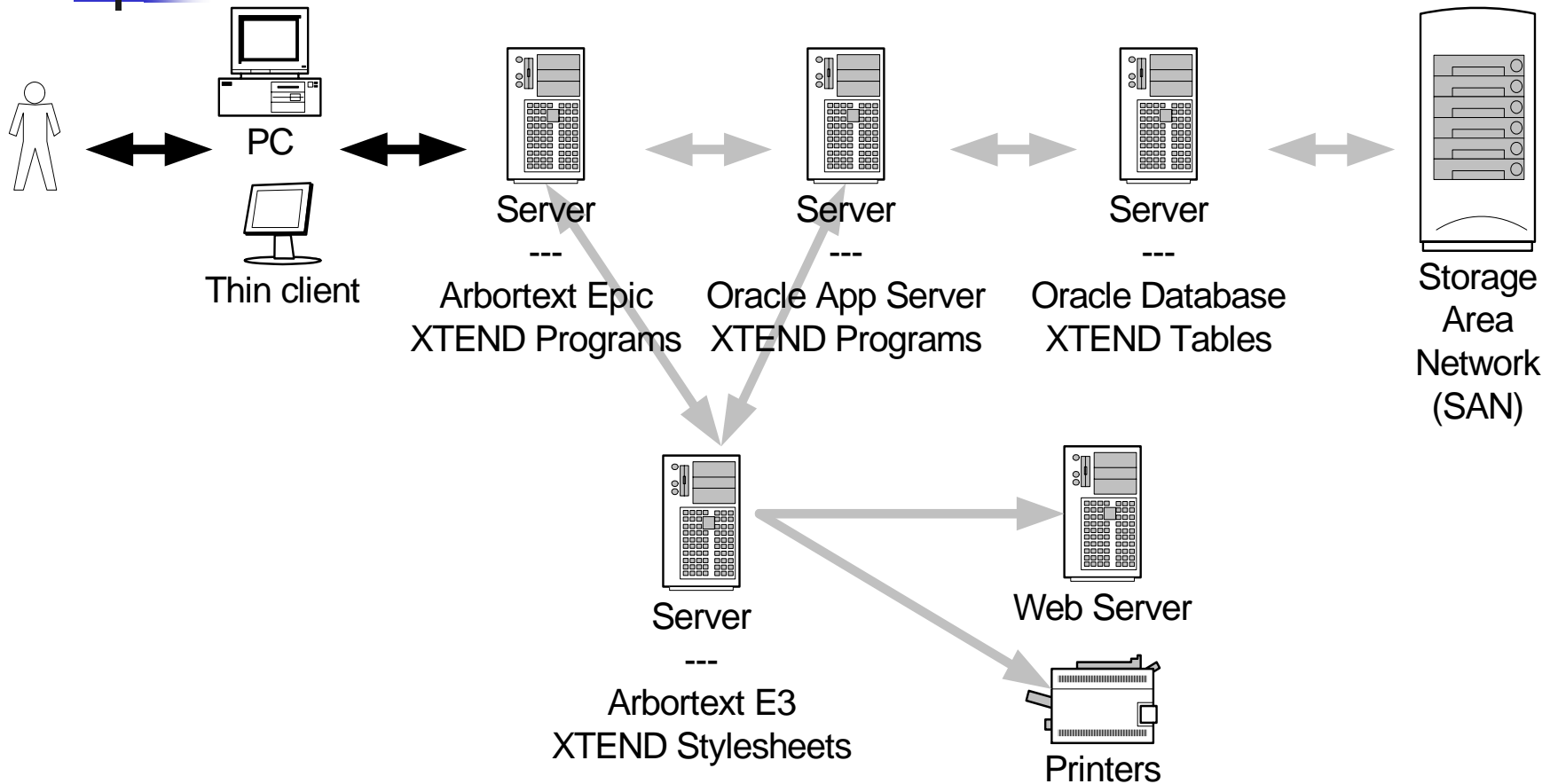
■ Custom Apps in

- Sun J2EE
- Arbortext ACL
- Perl
 - TE data conversion

XTEND – Logical Architecture



XTEND – Physical Architecture





XML in 10 points

<http://www.w3.org/XML/1999/XML-in-10-points>

1. XML is for structuring data
2. XML looks a bit like HTML
3. XML is text, but isn't meant to be read
4. XML is verbose by design
5. XML is a family of technologies
6. XML is new, but not that new
7. XML leads HTML to XHTML
8. XML is modular
9. XML is the basis for RDF and the Semantic Web
10. XML is license-free, platform-independent and well-supported



XML is a family of W3C technologies

- XML
- Schemas (including DTDs)
- XPointer
- DOM
- XSL



XML Terms

A bill for an act

relating to state government; appropriating money;
amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 16A.17, by
adding a subdivision.

Structure

Bill.dtd

Content


hf333.xml

Style

Bill.fos

Outputs

hf333.ps, .html



XML Terms

A bill for an act

relating to state government; appropriating money;
amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 16A.17, by
adding a subdivision.

<u>Structure</u>	<u>Content</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Outputs</u>
Bill.dtd	hf333.xml	Bill.fos	hf333.ps, .html

```
<!ELEMENT btitle (btitle_prolog, btitle_summary, btitle_action)>
```



XML Terms

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hf333.ps, .html

```
<btittle>  
  <btittle_prolog>A bill for an act</btittle_prolog>  
  <btittle_summary>relating to state government; appropriating money; </btittle_summary>  
  <btittle_action>amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 16A.17, by adding a  
subdivision. </btittle_action>  
</btittle>
```



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Outputs

hf333.ps, .html

```
<e-i-c gi="btitle_prolog"><?Pub Lcl _id="f234"><?Pub Dtl>  
<charlist inherit="1" charsubsetref="block center">  
<presp minimum="24pi" nominal="24pi" maximum="24pi" condit="keep" priority="high">  
<textbrk startpg="recto" pageid="body.page" newpgmdl="global"></charlist>  
</e-i-c>  
  
<e-i-c gi="btitle_summary" ... </e-i-c>  
  
<e-i-c gi="btitle_action" ... </e-i-c>
```



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