

The Permanent Preservation of Video Records of Congressional Consideration at the National Diet of Japan

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Abstract: The Public Records and Archives Management Act was enforced on April 1, 2011 in Japan. The outstanding issue of the act is how to preserve congressional records. The National Diet of Japan shall, in consultation with the Prime Minister, take necessary measures for the appropriate preservation of Historical Public Records and Archives in accordance with Article 14. That is, record management in the Diet is the exclusion from application of the act.

Both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors in the Diet amended and laid down their document management regulations under the provisions of the act. The term “Record” as used in there regulations shall mean a document that, having been prepared or obtained by an employee of the Houses in the course of his or her duties is held by the Houses concerned for organizational use by its employees. A picture and an electromagnetic record are included in that document.

My study was conducted with electromagnetic records as the subject, especially video records of congressional consideration. The minutes of the Diet are up to the web site of the National Diet Library. But remove the comment recording of the Member from the minutes is frequently performed. On the other hand, videos of consideration is recorded the comment recording of the

Member as facts. But videos are removed from the web site about a year later.

With that in mind, I surveyed and compared the current situation of preservation of video and audio records of the majority of countries in the world. On the result of the comparison, storage of recordings was found to be heavily dependent on the development of legal systems of the country.

About the author:

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