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CivilRules:

Yes

Comments:

Re: proposed Fed Rule E-Discovery Changes:

- oppose the change proposed via "Rule 26(b)(2)." Responding parties presently can urge that a request is unduly burdensome and assume the burden of demonstrating such burden in a motion to compel. And be subject to imposition of atty fees should the burden not be outside the scope of that experienced by all parties in responding. There is no suggestion of a standard re: "not reasonably accessible".
- I oppose the change proposed via "Rule 26 (b) (5) (B". The matter of having privileged information/material requested places a burden on the responding party. It is common to enter into a protective order, pre-response, relative to trade secret issues. Such is the burden already understood by responding counsel and is routinely addressed. Adding a step of providing materials, allowing time to examine, catalogue and annotate and then having the power via a demand to destroy or return all will add additional hours. This is an unreasonable expense to extend to the party.
- I oppose the "Rule 37. (f)" spoliation proposal. Short destruction times are currently recognized mechanisms of destruction of "evidence" rather than comprising a legitimate file organization/control function. The ease of search and the ever declining cost of electronic storage obviously forms the basis for a rule requiring years of retention of electronic data for use in the case which may not arise until an infant reaches and exceeds the majority age.

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