HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

INTRODUCED BY QUILICI, THOFT, DRISCOLL, PECK, SWYSGOOD

IN THE HOUSE

MARCH 23, 1991	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION.
MARCH 25, 1991	FIRST READING.
APRIL 12, 1991	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS. REPORT ADOPTED.
APRIL 13, 1991	PRINTING REPORT.
APRIL 15, 1991	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
APRIL 16, 1991	ENGROSSING REPORT.
APRIL 17, 1991	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 100; NOES, 0.
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE.
	IN THE SENATE
APRIL 18, 1991	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & CLAIMS.
	FIRST READING.
APRIL 19, 1991	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.
APRIL 20, 1991	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
APRIL 22, 1991	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 44; NOES, 4.
	RETURNED TO HOUSE.
	IN THE HOUSE
APRIL 23, 1991	RECEIVED FROM SENATE.
	SENT TO ENROLLING.
	REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

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4	A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF
5	REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN
6	INTERIM STUDY BY THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF
7	COMPUTER SERVICES, COMPUTER EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION, AND
8	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN MONTANA STATE GOVERNMENT; AND
9	REQUIRING THE COMMITTEE TO REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE 53RD
10	LEGISLATURE.
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12	WHEREAS, information is a costly resource that must be
13	managed as other resources, such as money, inventories,
14	personnel, and facilities are managed; and
15	WHEREAS, reliable information is the essential
16	ingredient in decisionmaking in all branches of government;
17	and
18	WHEREAS, the full impact of the computer and the
19	influence it has on state government is not obvious; and
20	WHEREAS, that influence is substantial and becomes even
21	more so as the use of computers increases; and
22	WHEREAS, while the development of computing and
23	communications technology has been dramatic since the end of
24	World War II, even more dramatic changes may be expected
25	well into the next century as new technologies demand

an effective and efficient manner; and 3 WHEREAS, the Department of Administration has asserted that as Montana state government looks to the challenges of the 1990s and beyond, it is clear that information and communications technology plays a more important role than ever before in the delivery of government services; that computers of all sizes and capabilities, telecommunications systems in government offices and schools, and advanced 10 software for management and processing of state government's 11 huge information resources will grow in numbers; and that 12 our reliance upon them will grow as well; and 13 WHEREAS, information resource management should reflect the organizational structure of state government and should 14 15 support and reflect the long-range enterprise strategy of 16 the organization and the decision structures that support 17 the strategy; and WHEREAS, 18 the Department of Administration is responsible, under section 2-17-501, MCA, for planning for 19 the operation and development of data processing in state 20 21 qovernment; and 22 WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor is responsible for 23 determining whether the assets of state agencies, including

their electronic data processing assets, are adequately

safeguarded and controlled and utilized in an efficient

application if state government is to serve the citizenry in

1	manner; and
2	WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor has recently undertaken
3	a statewide review of electronic data processing systems is
4	state government, focusing on hardware, software, data
5	processing organizations, and risks associated with the
6	systems; and
7	WHEREAS, the growing use of computers in Montana state
8	government is comprising an increasing share of total state
9	expenditures even as the cost per processing unit decreases
10	and
11	WHEREAS, the Legislature, as the approving authority fo
12	state government expenditures, has a vital interest and nee
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16	policies and strategies; and
17	WHEREAS, it is through decisions on appropriation
18	policy that the Legislature has its principal interaction
19	with the data processing policies and strategies of stat
20	government; and
21	WHEREAS, the Legislature is aware that some dat
22	processing system applications have failed or necessitate
23	replacement of costly components; and
24	WHEREIS the complexity of current data processing

1	criticality of wise investment decisions every biennium, as
2	they relate to the long-term health of state government,
3	make it essential that the Legislature be well informed on
4	state data processing issues.
5	
6	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE
7	OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
8	(1) That the Legislative Finance Committee be requested
9	to study:
10	(a) whether the Department of Administration has
11	effectively undertaken its responsibilities in the
12	development, application, and management of data processing
13	systems for state government;
14	(b) major applications of computer systems used in
15	providing significant state services now and in the future;
16	(c) methods of funding investments in information
17	processing technologies and services in Montana and other
18	state governments;
19	(d) short- and long-term policy, planning, and
20	appropriations issues related to state government's
21	information management policies and strategies; and
22	(e) other necessary issues related to information
23	management services and costs identified by the Committee.
24	(2) That the Legislative Finance Committee work closely

issues, the rapid development of technology, and

25

with and seek the input of the Legislative Audit Committee

- and the Department of Administration in conducting the study.
- 3 (3) That the Legislative Finance Committee report the
- 4 findings of the study to the 53rd Legislature, together with
- 5 recommendations or options that may have been developed for
- 6 consideration by the Legislature.

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APPROVED BY COMM. ON LEG. ADMIN.

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12	WHEREAS, information is a costly resource that must be
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16	ingredient in decisionmaking in all branches of government;
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18	WHEREAS, the full impact of the computer and the
19	influence it has on state government is not obvious; and
20	WHEREAS, that influence is substantial and becomes even
21	more so as the use of computers increases; and
22	WHEREAS, while the development of computing and
23	communications technology has been dramatic since the end of
24	World War II, even more dramatic changes may be expected
25	well into the next century as new technologies demand



application if state government is to serve the citizenry in an effective and efficient manner; and

3 WHEREAS, the Department of Administration has asserted 4 that as Montana state government looks to the challenges of the 1990s and beyond, it is clear that information and communications technology plays a more important role than ever before in the delivery of government services; that 7 computers of all sizes and capabilities, telecommunications 9 systems in government offices and schools, and advanced 10 software for management and processing of state government's 11 huge information resources will grow in numbers; and that 12 our reliance upon them will grow as well; and

13 WHEREAS, information resource management should reflect
14 the organizational structure of state government and should
15 support and reflect the long-range enterprise strategy of
16 the organization and the decision structures that support
17 the strategy; and

18 WHEREAS, the Department of Administration is 19 responsible, under section 2-17-501, MCA, for planning for 20 the operation and development of data processing in state 21 government; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor is responsible for determining whether the assets of state agencies, including their electronic data processing assets, are adequately safeguarded and controlled and utilized in an efficient

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WHEREAS, the growing use of computers in Montana State government is comprising an increasing share of total state expenditures even as the cost per processing unit decreases;

WHEREAS, the Legislature, as the approving authority for state government expenditures, has a vital interest and need understand the information management policy and strategies of state government and the role of computer and computer application acquisition and management in those policies and strategies; and

WHEREAS, it is through decisions on appropriations policy that the Legislature has its principal interaction with the data processing policies and strategies of state government; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is aware that some processing system applications have failed or necessitated replacement of costly components; and

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- (1) That the Legislative Finance Committee be requested to study: 9
- (a) whether the Department of Administration has 10 effectively undertaken its responsibilities in 11 development, application, and management of data processing 12 13 systems for state government;
 - (b) major applications of computer systems used in providing significant state services now and in the future;
 - (c) methods of funding investments in information processing technologies and services in Montana and other state governments;
 - (d) short- and long-term policy, planning, and appropriations issues related to state government's information management policies and strategies; and
- (e) other necessary issues related to information 22 management services and costs identified by the Committee. 23
 - (2) That the Legislative Finance Committee work closely with and seek the input of the Legislative Audit Committee

- 1 and the Department of Administration in conducting the
- 2 study.
- 3 (3) That the Legislative Finance Committee report the
- 4 findings of the study to the 53rd Legislature, together with
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THIRD READING
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