

APPROVED BY COM
ON JUDICIARY

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

2 INTRODUCED BY DOHERTY, LYNCH, JERGESON

3
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA INSTRUCTING THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE
6 SUPREME COURT ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE AND OF THE AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS OF
7 THE CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT, THE LAW LIBRARY, AND THE WATER COURT; AND REQUIRING
8 THAT A REPORT OF THE RESULTS OF THE PERFORMANCE AUDIT BE SUBMITTED TO THE 55TH
9 LEGISLATURE.

10
11 WHEREAS, the budget for the Supreme Court of Montana currently provides for 2.0 FTE and
12 \$122,890 a year for court automation activities; and

13 WHEREAS, the court is requesting an additional 10.0 FTE and \$1 million in general fund money a
14 year to expand court automation activities and to replace previously purchased automation equipment; and

15 WHEREAS, the Legislature has before it a separate bill to allow filing fees to be charged to support
16 court automation activities and it is expected that the filing fee would generate approximately \$900,000
17 a year; and

18 WHEREAS, from fiscal year 1988 through fiscal year 1994, the Judiciary has spent a total of
19 \$1,179,218 in general fund money on court automation activities; and

20 WHEREAS, there has not been a legislative performance audit of the Supreme Court Administrator's
21 Office before or since the inception of the court automation program in 1988.

22
23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
24 STATE OF MONTANA:

25 That the Legislative Auditor conduct a performance audit of the Supreme Court Administrator's
26 Office from the date of the inception of the Office to the current date to determine whether the agency is
27 carrying out its activities and programs efficiently and effectively, with particular attention paid to court
28 automation activities.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE
30 AUDIT OF THE AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT, THE

1 LAW LIBRARY, AND THE WATER COURT.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Auditor report the findings of the performance ~~audit~~

3 AUDITS to the 55th Legislature.

4 -END-