Recommendations to the State Administrative and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee regarding the Information Technology Report and the Information Technology Board

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Information Technology Report

The Biennial Report on Information Technology is an evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of the state's information technology investments in supporting the state's business processes and delivering value to its citizens.

The report is primarily designed to be an assessment of past progress, but is also an opportunity to outline future impacts on the state's information technology. Section 2-17-521, MCA, specifies that the Biennial Report must contain:

- an analysis of the state's information technology infrastructure;
- an evaluation of performance relating to information technology;
- an assessment of progress made toward implementing the state strategic information technology plan;
- an inventory of state information services, equipment, and proprietary software;
- agency budget requests for major projects; and
- other information as determined by the department or requested by the Governor or the Legislature.

Information Technology Board

The Information Technology Board (ITB) provides a forum to guide state agencies, the legislative branch, the judicial branch, and local governments in the development and deployment of intergovernmental information technology resources (2-17-513, MCA). The board also advises the Department of Administration on statewide information technology standards and policies, the state information technology strategic plan, major information technology budget requests, and rates and other charges for services established by the department.

The eGovernment Council was officially dissolved during the 2015 legislative session and the responsibilities that council now reside with the ITB.

The ITB was established in law in 2001 (2-15-1021, MCA). The current members are:

- Sheila Hogan, Director, Department of Administration, Chair
- Ron Baldwin, State Chief Information Officer
- Dan Villa, Office of Budget Program and Planning
- Richard Opper, Director, Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Jennie Stapp, Librarian, Montana Stat Library
- Pam Bucy, Commissioner of Labor and Industry
- Scott Darkenwald, Department of Justice
- John Tubbs, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
- Mike Kadas, Director, Department of Revenue
- Chris Mehl, Local Government Representative
- Jim Reno, County Commissioner, Yellowstone County
- Jason Wiener, Private Sector
- Representative Kirk Wagoner, Montana House of Representatives, HD 75
- Senator Roger Webb, Montana Senate, SD 23
- Susan Fox, Legislative Branch
- Beth McLaughlin, Supreme Court
- Tyler Trevor, Montana University Systems
- Ken Bailey, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Office of Public Instruction

Recommendations to the SAVA Committee

For the past 15 years the ITB has played a crucial role in guiding information technology for Montana state government. The ITB provides governance that aligns people with enterprise initiatives and builds consensus. It ensures the goals established in the State Strategic IT plan lead to a more efficient and effective government. The ITB measures the progress toward these goals as reported in the Biennial Report on Information Technology. The State Chief Information Officer believes the continuing of the Information Technology Board is necessary and beneficial to the success of information technology in the State of Montana. Therefore, no change is necessary to 2-17-513, MCA.