

EXHIBIT 12
DATE 2-17-05
HB HS 31

House Joint Resolution No. 31
Informational Testimony of Jeff Brandt
Before the House State Administration Committee

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, for the record my name is Jeff Brandt, Acting State Chief Information Office (CIO) and Acting Administrator of the Information Technology Services Division (ITSD), within the Department of Administration.

I have 2 informational items to provide to the committee:

1. This issue was studied by the legislature as recently as 2000. The Legislative Fiscal Division, responding to a request by the 1999 legislature, undertook an interim study of information technology (IT) in the State. The Legislative Fiscal Division issued their report to the legislature in December 2000. Based on the recommendations in the report, the Montana Information Technology Act (SB131) was passed by the 2001 legislature. This act made significant changes to the responsibilities of the Department of Administration for information technology, including the creation of the position of Chief Information Office (CIO).
2. The resolution makes reference to a number of IT advisory groups, including the SummitNet Executive Council. Governor Martz eliminated this council in 2004.

I will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.