

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 3-10-05
SB 98

Testimony of Janet Kelly
Before the House State Administration Committee
March 10, 2005
Senate Bill 98

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, my name is Janet Kelly. I am the Director of the Department of Administration, and I am appearing before you today in strong support of SB 98.

Over the past ten years, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) have become an increasingly larger part of the technological tool kit for the state. The National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) recognizes GIS data and technology as a critical part of a state's IT infrastructure. Local, state, federal, and tribal agencies rely upon GIS data and the information it provides to improve their decision-making capability. SB 98 provides a stable funding source and standardized method so that Montana businesses and citizens have access to accurate land information.

SB 98 establishes certain duties for the Department of Administration regarding land information data, and I have asked Jeff Brandt, Acting Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Director of ITSD, to explain the technology, discuss the importance of the priority data layers and review the technical aspects of the bill.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, I urge your favorable consideration of SB 98, so we can develop and maintain geospatial digital data about Montana that can be used by citizens, businesses, as well as local, state, federal, and tribal governments.

Thank you.