

Exhibit No. 5  
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Bill No. HB 830

**House Bill 830**  
**Appropriate Money for Construction & Maintenance of Public Buildings and Systems**

Proponent Testimony by Dick Clark, Chief Information Officer (CIO)  
Information Technology Services Division (ITSD)  
Department of Administration  
444-2777

**Before the Senate Finance & Claims Committee**  
April 10, 2007

Madam Chair, members of the committee, for the record my name is Dick Clark. I am the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the State of Montana.

I would like to provide you with a few remarks about the approach we've taken this session to bring IT projects in front of the legislature for consideration.

The primary duty of the CIO is to implement the conscious policy objectives established by the legislature within the Montana Information Technology Act of 2001, or MITA. MITA requires state government to develop information technology resources in an "organized, deliberative and cost-effective manner". MITA also states that "It is the policy of the state that the department must be accountable to the governor, the legislature, and the citizens of Montana."

With those policies in mind, we crafted a single bill that included all large IT projects. In many respects this represents an experiment in how to present you with information regarding IT projects. I welcome your feedback. This bill contains IT projects advanced by ITSD within the Department of Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and the Judicial Branch. This proposal is the result of careful consideration of all options, extensive consultation between the Departments and the State CIO's office, and the work of numerous vendors who responded to requests for information to help determine the costs of what we require.

With the inclusion of the various IT projects in a single bill, it was our goal for the Legislature to see all IT projects as a complete package so you could consider the relative merits of all the proposals at the same time and establish priorities as necessary in order to make the best decisions possible.

There are always risks involved in information technology – risks of staying where you are and risks of building new systems. At this point, for the departments included in this bill, the risks of inaction far outweigh the risks of replacing these systems. If you've had a chance to look through the earlier presentations, you'll see that the risks are sobering. They're precisely why the state of Montana is now trying to take a more measured approach to Information Technology development.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. With your support of these projects, Montana will take major steps in using information technology to meet the needs of our citizens in the coming years.

With that, I'll turn it over to Jeff Brandt, Deputy CIO, who will provide you with a quick summary of the IT projects that would be the responsibility of ITSD.

I or my staff will be available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.