

SUMMARY OF SELECTED STATUTES RELATED TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLANNING

Purpose of Legislative Branch Computer System Statutes (5-11-401, MCA). The purpose of the statutes is to establish a planning mechanism encompassing:

- broad policy needs;
- long-term direction for information systems use; and
- effective implementation of a detailed plan for the Legislative Branch.

Purpose of Legislative Branch Plan (5-11-401, MCA). The purpose of the branch plan is to:

- ensure coordination of information system decisions; and
- enhance coordination of Legislative Branch systems with executive branch systems whenever possible.

Duties of the Legislative Branch (2-17-517, MCA). The Legislative Branch must provide its information technology plan to the Department of Administration.

Duties of Legislative Branch Information Technology Planning Council (5-11-403, MCA). The Planning Council must develop and maintain a branch information technology plan including:

- approving and validating the branch enterprise architecture program;
- reviewing information systems that are candidates for automation, modernization, enhancement, improvement, or integration;
- developing and maintaining a description of branch functions or services that would, through application or improvement of information technology, provide better service;
- prioritizing information technology initiatives;
- adopting technology standards within the enterprise architecture program that are appropriate to the business needs and technical environment;
- consideration of information technology to support security, disaster recovery, and continuity of government.

Duties of Legislative Services Division (5-11-404 and 5-11-112 MCA). The responsibilities of the legislative services division include: network support services, application support and development, communications support and coordination, and information technology planning.

The Division must provide technical support to the Council by:

- developing and maintaining an enterprise architecture program;
- developing analyses of existing and alternative systems to identify candidates for automation, modernization, or enhancement;
- assisting in assessing benefits and costs of alternate solutions;
- apprising the planning council on developments and trends in the technology industry;
- maintaining a liaison with and informing the planning council of plans and directions within the Executive Branch;
- selecting and purchasing supplies and equipment;
- providing information and advice regarding information technology support of security, disaster recovery, and continuity of government; and
- providing other assistance as requested.

Duties of the Legislative Council (5-11-405, MCA). The Legislative Council must:

- approve and adopt the branch information technology plan.