

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6456

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS, FEBRUARY 11, 1992

Brief Description: Revising statutes regarding state information resources.

SPONSORS: Senators Cantu, Madsen, McDonald and Talmadge; by request of Department of Information Services and Office of Financial Management

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6456 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators McDonald, Chairman; Craswell, Vice Chairman; Bluechel, Cantu, Gaspard, M. Kreidler, Matson, Metcalf, L. Smith, Talmadge, West, Williams, and Wojahn.

Staff: Martin Chaw (786-7715)

Hearing Dates: February 10, 1992; February 11, 1992

BACKGROUND:

In 1987 the Legislature created the Department of Information Services. The department was given the responsibility to oversee and review the costs, scope, and feasibility of proposed computer systems for the state. The department is composed of two private divisions:

- 1) the Planning and Policy Division, which oversees long range system planning and system policy development; and
- 2) the Service Divisions, which provide telecommunications, data processing and equipment leasing support to state agencies.

The department is overseen by the Information Services Board which consists of nine members (three from cabinet agencies, one from higher education, one from a noncabinet executive agency, two from the private sector, one from the judicial branch, and one from the legislative branch).

In the 1991-93 biennial budget, the Legislature appropriated \$1.4 million and 16 FTEs for FY92 funding only for the Planning and Policy Division. The budget included a proviso requiring the division to submit a plan to improve the state's information systems development, review, and approval process.

The plan, now completed, identifies a number of weaknesses that have historically presented problems for information systems management and cost control. Deficiencies in the current approach include substandard work products, poor

project conception and planning, and ineffective project oversight. The plan also makes recommendations to improve funding and planning approaches.

SUMMARY:

Membership of the Information Services Board is increased to ten members, adding the Director of Information Services.

The respective roles, responsibilities, and review process for the Department of Information Services and the state agencies requesting an information system are modified as follows: