

**Unofficial Draft Copy**

As of: September 7, 2012 (6:04pm)

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\*\*\*\* Joint Resolution No. \*\*\*\*

Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*

By Request of the Select Committee on Efficiency in Government

A Joint Resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana requesting an interim study to investigate electronic records management by state and local government; and requiring that the final results of the study be reported to the 64th Legislature.

WHEREAS, Montana state government lacks enterprise-wide policy, planning and resources to properly archive, maintain and access state and local government electronic records; and

WHEREAS, this lack of a framework for managing state and local government electronic records puts entities at risk of being unable to provide evidence to support the rule of law, support the accountability of government administration, detail interactions between the people of Montana and their government, and document the history and culture of Montana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

(1) identify and examine strategies for identifying, classifying, managing, and preserving electronic records that

have value;

(2) examine the costs and benefits associated with the strategies,

(3) identify funding sources or mechanisms to evaluate long-term governance structures for governing electronic records management;

(4) identify and evaluate the methods and means for improving access to state government electronic records, including alternative formats specifically addressing retention of state email records;

(5) examine public-private partnerships that increase awareness of public records management and access; and

(6) develop educational strategies to provide awareness of electronic records management processes inside and outside of government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 64th Legislature.

- END -

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