

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILES 8672
1552 SCOMM 58: HOUSE SPEC. COMM. ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, 1987-1988/9

1 rental, must be selected on the basis of factors such as the ratio of
2 long-range costs versus benefits, life-cycle costing, and the costs to
3 the communications industry to the extent that these costs may affect
4 local and long distance basic telephone rates.

5 (c) Procurements by state agencies involving information tech-
6 nology shall be conducted according to regulations adopted by the
7 Telecommunications Information Agency.

8 (d) Whenever feasible, the Telecommunications Information Agency
9 shall procure services from private enterprise or certified and fran-
10 chised utilities and contract with them for the construction, manage-
11 ment, operation, and maintenance of telecommunications systems.

12 Sec. 44.19.506. OTHER POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The Telecommuni-
13 cations Information Agency shall also

14 (1) determine what information state agencies have, ascer-
15 tain where the information is located and who needs the information,
16 and coordinate public access to information;

17 (2) assist and educate state agencies and, if requested,
18 private noncommercial entities and political subdivisions of the
19 state, including the University of Alaska, in the use of information
20 technology and systems analysis;

21 (3) establish evaluation criteria for state-funded programs
22 that use information technology;

23 (4) obtain economical information technology equipment and
24 services;

25 (5) represent the state, when requested by the governor, in
26 information resource management and technology matters;

27 (6) provide for the disposal of all information technology
28 property that is surplus to the needs of a using state agency;

29 (7) advise the governor on matters of policy and

1 comprehensive state planning for telecommunications information sys-
2 tems;

3 (8) make an annual report to the governor and to the legis-
4 lature on the activities of the Telecommunications Information Agency;

5 (9) coordinate, manage, and supervise programs of state
6 agencies in information technology, including the management of those
7 telecommunication services for the state obtained from common carriers
8 and from the communications industry;

9 (10) prepare and maintain both short-range and long range
10 telecommunications information systems plans to further state informa-
11 tion systems development and to meet state needs, provide managerial
12 leadership in the use of telecommunications information systems, and
13 prepare and maintain a comprehensive inventory of all communications
14 facilities of state agencies;

15 (11) maintain a central staff of systems analysts and other
16 staff members sufficient to provide systems analysis support required
17 by the executive and legislative branches of state government;

18 (12) review all budget requests for telecommunications
19 information systems services and recommend to the governor approval,
20 modification, or disapproval;

21 (13) apply for and accept federal and private money, proper-
22 ty, or assistance, that may be appropriated, granted, or otherwise
23 made available to the state for information technology and use and
24 disburse money and property for purposes consistent with AS 44.19.-
25 502 - 44.19.519, subject to reasonable limitations imposed by the
26 grantor;

27 (14) assist, through design, development, and promotion,
28 local school districts or other local and regional education agencies
29 in the regionalization of instructional telecommunications services;

1 (15) establish operational policies for public telecommu-
2 nications services other than public broadcasting; and

3 (16) assist the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission and
4 any commission-designated subcommittees, to perform assigned agency
5 functions; the Telecommunications Information Agency shall cooperate
6 with the commission and subcommittees in order to develop policies
7 that are responsive to the user groups that are represented on the
8 commission.

9 (b) The Telecommunications Information Agency may

10 (1) recommend implementation priorities of requested tele-
11 communications information systems;

12 (2) for state agencies, determine and satisfy their data
13 processing equipment and supply requirements that exceed \$25,000;

14 (3) review state automatic data processing systems to
15 encourage effectiveness, measure performance, and assure adherence to
16 the standards developed under this section;

17 (4) charge a state agency or other governmental agency for
18 the cost of the automatic data processing services provided or pro-
19 cured by the Telecommunications Information Agency for the using
20 agency;

21 (5) coordinate the Telecommunications Information Agency's
22 functions with local, regional, state, and federal officials, private
23 groups and individuals, and with officials of other countries, prov-
24 inces, and states;

25 (6) enter into contracts and subcontracts on behalf of the
26 state to carry out the provisions of AS 44.19.502 - 44.19.519; and

27 (7) hold public hearings to obtain information to carry out
28 the provisions of AS 44.19.502 - 44.19.519.

29 Sec. 44.19.508. DATA PROCESSING. (a) The Telecommunications

1 Information Agency may develop and implement a plan for the inte-
2 gration of automatic data processing facilities of the University of
3 Alaska with the facilities of state agencies. The integration plan
4 authorized by this subsection may not be put into operation until
5 approved by the president of the University of Alaska.

6 (b) The Telecommunications Information Agency shall provide or
7 procure automatic data processing services under this section for the
8 judicial branch to the extent requested by that branch, and may charge
9 the branch for the services.

10 (c) The director of the Telecommunications Information Agency
11 shall deposit the data processing services fees charged to political
12 subdivisions in the general fund. The commissioner of administration
13 shall separately account for all fees that are collected and deposited
14 under this section. The legislature may use the annual estimated
15 balance in the account to make appropriations to the Telecommunica-
16 tions Information Agency to carry out AS 44.19.502 - 44.19.519.

17 Sec. 44.19.510. TELECOMMUNICATIONS. (a) Subject to available
18 funds, the Telecommunication Information Agency may make grants to
19 educational and public telecommunication users, except grants for
20 public broadcasting purposes.

21 (b) The Telecommunications Information Agency shall study, plan,
22 and develop integrated instructional telecommunications services for
23 all residents of the state, and shall annually report on current
24 fiscal year instructional telecommunications activities. After public
25 hearings, the agency shall submit to the governor and the legislature
26 an annually updated long-term development plan prepared in consulta-
27 tion with the Department of Education, the University of Alaska, local
28 school districts, and other local and regional education areas.

29 (c) The Telecommunications Information Agency shall, after

1 public hearings, submit to the governor an annually updated long-term
2 development plan for teleconferencing facilities and services, includ-
3 ing facilities and services used both by state agencies and groups
4 other than state agencies.

5 (d) The Telecommunications Information Agency may not own,
6 operate, or be the licensee of a public noncommercial broadcast sta-
7 tion or production center.

8 (e) This section does not imply Telecommunications Information
9 Agency responsibility for programming content. Program design, pro-
10 duction, and use are the responsibility of the program-sponsoring
11 agency or other entity, not the Telecommunications Information Agency.

12 (f) This section does not prohibit a state agency from devel-
13 oping telecommunications systems within its own agency if the director
14 of the Telecommunications Information Agency gives written authoriza-
15 tion for the user agency to engage in its own design, development,
16 management, or operation. The director may authorize independent
17 development only upon a showing of necessity. A description of au-
18 thorization under this subsection shall be included in the annual
19 report required under AS 44.19.506.

20 (g) A state agency authorized to develop an internal telecommu-
21 nications system shall, whenever feasible, coordinate its design
22 development, management, and operation with the Telecommunications
23 Information Agency.

24 Sec. 44.19.519. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.19.502 - 44.19.519,

25 (1) "public broadcasting" means the delivery of radio or
26 television noncommercial programming intended for the general public
27 by any method of telecommunications;

28 (2) "public telecommunications" means telecommunications
29 that serve public broadcasting, general educational, instructional,

1 medical, safety, emergency, or public participation functions;

2 (3) "state agencies" means all departments, divisions, and
3 offices in the executive and legislative branches of state government;
4 it does not mean an agency of the judicial branch of government or the
5 University of Alaska;

6 (4) "telecommunications" means the transmission and recep-
7 tion of messages, impressions, pictures, and signals with or without
8 benefit of a closed transmission medium including all instrumentali-
9 ties, facilities, apparatus, and services, whether conveyed by cable
10 or wire, radiated through space, or transmitted through other media
11 within a specified area or between designated points;

12 (5) "telecommunications systems" means those systems in
13 which the principal service and functions are telecommunications.

14 * Sec. 3. AS 18.07.111(9) is amended to read:

15 (9) "health care facility" means a private, municipal,
16 state or federal hospital, psychiatric hospital, tuberculosis hospi-
17 tal, skilled nursing facility, kidney disease treatment center
18 (including freestanding hemodialysis units), intermediate care facil-
19 ity, and ambulatory surgical facility; the term excludes

20 (A) an Alaska Pioneers' Home administered by the
21 Department of Administration under AS 44.21.020 [AS 44.21.020-
22 (10)] and AS 47.25.010 - 47.25.100; and

23 (B) the offices of private physicians or dentists
24 whether in individual or group practice;

25 * Sec. 4. AS 36.30.850(b) is amended to read:

26 (b) This chapter applies to every expenditure of state funds
27 irrespective of their sources, including federal assistance except as
28 otherwise specified in AS 36.30.890, by the state, acting through an
29 agency, under a contract, except that this chapter does not apply to

- 1 (1) grants;
- 2 (2) contracts for professional witnesses to provide for
3 professional services or testimony relating to existing or probable
4 lawsuits in which the state is or may become a party;
- 5 (3) contracts of the University of Alaska where the work is
6 to be performed substantially by students enrolled in the university;
- 7 (4) contracts for medical doctors and dentists;
- 8 (5) acquisitions or disposals of real property or interest
9 in real property, except as provided in AS 36.30.080;
- 10 (6) disposals under AS 38.05;
- 11 (7) contracts for the preparation of ballots under AS 15.-
12 15.030;
- 13 (8) acquisitions or disposals of property and other con-
14 tracts relating to airports under AS 02.15.070, 02.15.090, and 02.-
15 15.091;
- 16 (9) disposals of obsolete property under AS 19.05.060;
- 17 (10) disposals of obsolete material or equipment under
18 AS 35.20.060;
- 19 (11) agreements with providers of services under AS 47.07;
20 AS 47.08; AS 47.10; AS 47.17; AS 47.24; AS 47.25.195, and 47.25.310;
- 21 (12) contracts of the Department of Fish and Game for
22 flights that involve specialized flying and piloting skills and are
23 not point-to-point;
- 24 (13) purchases of income-producing assets for the state
25 treasury or a public corporation of the state;
- 26 (14) procurements of information technology that exceed
27 \$25,000 and disposals of information technology under AS 44.19.502 -
28 44.19.519.

29 * Sec. 5. AS 44.21.020 is amended to read:

1 Sec. 44.21.020. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The Department of Admin-
2 istration shall

3 (1) [REPEALED

4 (2)] make surveys and studies to improve administrative
5 procedures, methods, and organization;

6 (2) [(3)] keep general accounts;

7 (3) [(4)] approve vouchers and disburse funds for all
8 purposes;

9 (4) [(5)] operate centralized purchasing and supply ser-
10 vices, and necessary storerooms and warehouses;

11 (5) [(6)] allot space in state buildings to the various
12 departments according to need and available space;

13 (6) [(7)] supervise telephone, mailing, messenger, dupli-
14 cating, and similar services adaptable to centralized management;

15 (7) [(8)] administer the public employees' retirement
16 system and teachers' retirement system;

17 (8) [(9)] administer a statewide personnel program, includ-
18 ing central personnel services such as recruitment, examination,
19 position classification, and pay administration;

20 (9) [(10)] administer the Alaska Pioneers' Homes;

21 (10) [(11)] administer and supervise a statewide automatic
22 data processing program;

23 (11) [(12)] REPEALED

24 (13) STUDY, DESIGN,] implement [, AND MANAGE] the telecommu-
25 nications systems and services of the state under AS 44.21.300 -
26 44.21.330.

27 * Sec. 6. AS 44.21.150 is amended to read:

28 Sec. 44.21.150. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. It is the purpose of
29 AS 44.21.150 - 44.21.170 to designate the Department of Administration

1 as the department responsible for the operation [AND MANAGEMENT] of
2 automatic data processing resources and activities of the executive
3 and legislative branches of state government and the judicial branch
4 to the extent requested by that branch, to provide for cooperation
5 between the department and the Telecommunications Information Agency
6 in the Office of the Governor, and to provide for periodic review of
7 state automatic data processing procedures and mechanisms. It is
8 further the purpose of these sections to encourage cooperation between
9 the state government and local governments in the use of automatic
10 data processing systems.

11 * Sec. 7. AS 44.21.160(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) Except as otherwise provided in (g) of this section, the
13 department shall cooperate with the Telecommunications Information
14 Agency in the Office of the Governor to provide automatic data pro-
15 cessing services responsive to the needs of state government and to
16 procure, operate, and staff all automatic data processing equipment
17 facilities used by state government.

18 * Sec. 8. AS 44.21.160(b) is repealed and reenacted to read:

19 (b) To carry out (a) of this section the department may

20 (1) maintain a central staff of computer programmers and
21 other staff members sufficient to provide systems analysis and com-
22 puter programming support required by the executive, legislative and
23 judicial branches of state government;

24 (2) provide all facilities, equipment and staff required to
25 convert data to a form suitable for processing on automatic data
26 processing equipment;

27 (3) develop and publish systems analysis, computer program-
28 ming and computer operations standards;

29 (4) develop and conduct an automatic data processing

1 training program designed to serve the technical and managerial needs
2 of state government;

3 (5) require each state agency to procure its automatic data
4 processing services from the department if the procurement does not
5 exceed \$25,000;

6 (6) charge a state agency or other governmental agency for
7 the cost of the automatic data processing services provided or pro-
8 cured by the department for the agency.

9 * Sec. 9. AS 44.21.160(e) is amended to read:

10 (e) [NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PRECLUDES THE DEPARTMENT FROM
11 AUTHORIZING RECRUITMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF DATA PROCESSING PERSONNEL BY
12 OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WHEN THE COMMISSIONER DETER-
13 MINES THAT THE NEEDS OF THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS WILL BE BEST SERVED BY
14 THE AUTHORIZATION.] Nothing in this section precludes the department
15 from obtaining necessary contractual assistance for automatic data
16 processing activities if the amount does not exceed \$25,000. Nothing
17 in this section precludes the legislature or judicial system from
18 recruiting and employing data processing personnel or from obtaining
19 necessary contractual assistance for automatic data processing activ-
20 ities.

21 * Sec. 10. AS 44.21.160(f) is amended to read:

22 (f) The Department of Administration [DIVISION OF DATA PROCESS-
23 ING] shall coordinate with the Telecommunications Information Agency
24 in the Office of the Governor [DIVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS] in
25 providing for the effective transfer of information by telecommu-
26 nications through the establishment of compatible systems and common
27 standards.

28 * Sec. 11. AS 44.21.266 is amended to read:

29 Sec. 44.21.266. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. The commission shall

1 (1) [REPEALED
2 (2) REPEALED
3 (3) REPEALED
4 (4)] apply for federal and private funds for public broad-
5 casting purposes and receive all federal, state or private funds,
6 property or assistance that may be appropriated, granted or otherwise
7 made available to the commission for public broadcasting purposes, and
8 use and disburse funds and property for purposes consistent with the
9 terms of AS 44.21.256 - 44.21.290, subject to reasonable limitations
10 imposed by the grantor;
11 (2) [(5)] provide consultative services in all aspects of
12 public broadcasting to all public or private agencies in the state
13 which request them;
14 (3) [(6)] serve as a library and clearinghouse for public
15 broadcasting information;
16 (4) [(7) REPEALED
17 (8) REPEALED
18 (9)] through grants to qualified entities, develop an inte-
19 grated public broadcasting network for the state;
20 (5) [(10) REPEALED
21 (11)] through grants to qualified entities, develop and
22 distribute public broadcasting programming in the state;
23 (6) [(12)] prepare and submit to the governor and the
24 legislature, in consultation with the Telecommunications Information
25 Agency in the Office of the Governor [TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISIONS IN
26 THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION], a long term plan for the develop-
27 ment of public broadcasting stations and systems in the state, and
28 annually update the plan; and
29 (7) [(13)] perform all other functions necessary to ensure

1 the orderly and coordinated development of public broadcasting in the
2 state.

3 * Sec. 12. AS 44.21.310 is repealed and reenacted to read:

4 Sec. 44.21.310. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING
5 TELECOMMUNICATIONS. (a) The department shall

6 (1) make an annual report to the governor and to the legis-
7 lature on the activities of the department concerning telecommunica-
8 tions;

9 (2) provide that all activities of the department related
10 to telecommunications are responsive to state statutes and regula-
11 tions, and to the regulations and rulings of the Federal Communica-
12 tions Commission;

13 (3) provide technical consultation to educational and
14 public telecommunications users;

15 (4) assist the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission and
16 any commission-designated subcommittees to perform assigned depart-
17 mental functions; the department shall cooperate with the commission
18 and subcommittees in order to develop policies that are responsive to
19 the user groups that are represented on the commission; and

20 (5) assure that departmental activities in no way con-
21 stitute an influence on the content or airing of programming, and
22 report to the governor, the commissioner, and the Alaska Public Broad-
23 casting Commission any request or attempt by an employee of the state
24 to influence the content or airing of program material.

25 (b) The department may

26 (1) coordinate its functions with local, regional, state,
27 and federal officials, private groups and individuals, and with offi-
28 cials of other jurisdictions; and

29 (2) enter into contracts and subcontracts on behalf of the

1 state if the amount does not exceed \$25,000 to carry out the provi-
2 sions of AS 44.21.300 - 44.21.330.

3 (c) The department may not attempt to influence or affect the
4 content or airing of program material.

5 (d) The department may not own, operate, or be the licensee of a
6 public noncommercial broadcast station or production center.

7 (e) Nothing in this section implies departmental responsibility
8 for programming content. Program design, production, and use are the
9 responsibility of the program-sponsoring agency or other entity, not
10 the department.

11 * Sec. 13. AS 44.21.320(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) Except as provided in (e) of this section, the department
13 [DIVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS] may [, CONSISTENT WITH THE
14 PROVISIONS OF AS 44.21.310(a)(6)]

15 (1) plan, design, construct, manage, and operate all tele-
16 communications systems owned or leased by state agencies;

17 (2) manage centrex and other telephone-related services of
18 state agencies;

19 (3) be responsible generally for telecommunications systems
20 and design for state agencies; and

21 (4) coordinate with state agencies in performing their data
22 and word processing tasks.

23 * Sec. 14. AS 44.21.320(c) is amended to read:

24 (c) Within the limits of available financing, the department
25 [DIVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS] shall administer and
26 operate the satellite television project, by

27 (1) coordinating with the satellite television user groups
28 and entities; and

29 (2) providing liaison, management support, and technical

1 assistance for the satellite television project.

2 * Sec. 15. AS 44.21.320(d) is amended to read:

3 (d) Decisions and policies relating to programming under the
4 satellite television project, including scheduling and allocation
5 policies, may not be made by the [DIVISIONS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS OR
6 THE] department, but may only be made by a network that is representa-
7 tive of participating rural television users, by commercial broadcast
8 users or by other affected participating user groups and entities
9 under procedures provided by statute or, if no statute applies, then
10 by agreement of the affected user networks or groups. The department
11 shall assist users in preparing agreements that may be required under
12 this subsection.

13 * Sec. 16. AS 44.21.320(e) is amended to read:

14 (e) The [DIVISIONS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE] department may
15 not engage in any activity which interferes with a contract or program
16 right relating to commercial television programming, including but not
17 limited to any right protected by copyright.

18 * Sec. 17. TRANSITION. All litigation, hearings, investigations and
19 other proceedings pending under a law amended or repealed by this Act, or
20 in connection with functions transferred by this Act, continue in effect
21 and may be continued and completed notwithstanding a transfer or amendment
22 or repeal provided for in this Act. Certificates, orders, and regulations
23 issued or adopted under authority of a law amended or repealed by this Act
24 remain in effect for the term issued, or until revoked, vacated, or other-
25 wise modified under the provisions of this Act. All contracts, rights,
26 liabilities, and obligations created by or under a law amended or repealed
27 by this Act, and in effect on July 1, 1987, remain in effect notwithstand-
28 ing this Act's taking effect. Records, equipment, and other property of
29 agencies of the state whose functions are transferred under this Act shall

1 be transferred commensurate with the provisions of this Act.

2 * Sec. 18. NAME CHANGE. To be consistent with the changes made by this
3 Act, wherever in the Alaska Statutes and in regulations adopted under those
4 statutes "division of telecommunications services," "division of telecommu-
5 nications operations," and other terms identifying the divisions are used,
6 they must be read as referring to the Department of Administration or the
7 Telecommunications Information Agency as appropriate under the provisions
8 of this Act. Under AS 01.05.031, the revisor of statutes shall implement
9 this section in the statutes and under AS 44.62.125(b)(6), the regulations
10 attorney shall implement this section in the administrative regulations.

11 * Sec. 19. AS 44.21.160(d), 44.21.300, 44.21.305, 44.21.315, 44.21.-
12 320(a), 44.21.320(f), 44.21.320(g), and 44.21.330(3) are repealed.

13 * Sec. 20. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: An Act creating Telecommuni-
cation Information Council
 Sponsor: Boucher
 Requestor: House Special Committee
on Telecommunications

Bill Version: CSHB 40(Fin)
 Publish Date: HOUSE 5/4/87

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
 BRU: Office of Management & Budget

Components: Division of Policy

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES		-0-				
TRAVEL		-0-				
CONTRACTUAL		-0-				
SUPPLIES		-0-				
EQUIPMENT		-0-				
LAND & STRUCTURES		-0-				
GRANTS, CLAIMS		-0-				
MISCELLANEOUS		-0-				
TOTAL OPERATING		-0-				
CAPITAL		-0-				
REVENUE		-0-				

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		-0-				
FEDERAL FUNDS		-0-				
OTHER		-0-				
TOTAL		-0-				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Professional and clerical support is to be provided by existing staff within the Office of the Governor and by agencies represented on the Telecommunication Information Council.

Prepared by: Representative Al Adams, Chair
 Division: House Finance Committee

Phone: _____
 Date: May 1, 1987

Approved by Commissioner: _____
 Agency: _____

Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)
 Senate Secretary

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

No. 4

Bill Version: CSHB 40(Fin)
Publish Date: HOUSE 5/4/87

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: An Act creating Telecommuni-
cation Information Council
Sponsor: Boucher
Requestor: House Special Committee
on Telecommunications

Agency Affected: Administration
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
OPERATING						
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

It is assumed that the Council will replace the need for the Information Systems Committee (ISC) as it exists today. The Department of Administration would devote the minimal resources currently used in support of the ISC to support the Council.

Prepared by: Representative Al Adams, Chair
Division: House Finance Committee

Phone: _____
Date: May 1, 1987

Approved by Commissioner: _____
Agency: _____

Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)
Senate Secretary

Original sponsor: Boucher

1 IN THE HOUSE
BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 40 (Telecommunications)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Telecommunications Information
7 Council in the Office of the Governor; and providing
8 for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to establish a coun-
11 cil to develop and implement a cost-effective policy for managing the
12 state's information and information technology resources in a comprehensive
13 and coordinated manner so that state government may better serve the people
14 of the state.

15 * Sec. 2. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 ARTICLE 16. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL.

17 Sec. 44.19.502. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL. (a)
18 There is created within the Office of the Governor the Telecommunica-
19 tions Information Council.

20 (b) The council is composed of the governor, the commissioner
21 from each principal department of the executive branch, the president
22 of the University of Alaska, the executive director of the Legislative
23 Affairs Agency, and the executive director of the Alaska Public Broad-
24 casting Commission. The chief justice of the supreme court may ap-
25 point a member to serve on the council.

26 (c) The governor shall preside over the council. The council
27 shall meet at least four times each year. The council may meet more
28 frequently at the call of the chair or if requested by a majority of
29 the council's members.

1 (d) The Office of the Governor shall provide professional and
2 clerical staff for the council.

3 Sec. 44.19.504. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The council shall

4 (1) establish guidelines and prepare a state short-range
5 and long-range information systems plan to meet state needs;

6 (2) establish guidelines and direct state agencies to
7 prepare agency information systems plans;

8 (3) establish guidelines for the accessing of information
9 by the public;

10 (4) publish in the first quarter of each calendar year a
11 report on the activities of the council.

12 (b) In addition to its duties under (a) of this section, the
13 council may establish policies and engage in activities it considers
14 necessary or appropriate.

15 (c) This section does not grant council responsibility for
16 broadcast programming content. Program design, production, and use
17 are the responsibility of the program-sponsoring agency or other
18 entity.

19 (d) This section does not prohibit a state agency from devel-
20 oping information systems that are inconsistent with the guidelines
21 established in (a) of this section if the council gives written au-
22 thorization for the user agency to engage in the independent design,
23 development, management, or operation. The council may authorize
24 independent development only upon a showing of necessity. A descrip-
25 tion of authorization under this subsection shall be included in the
26 annual report required under this section.

27 (e) A state agency, including an agency authorized to develop an
28 independent system under (d) of this section, shall coordinate the
29 design, development, management, and operation of its information

1 systems with the council.

2 Sec. 44.19.519. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.19.502 - 44.19.519

3 (1) "council" means the Telecommunications Information
4 Council;

5 (2) "state agencies" means all departments, divisions, and
6 offices in the executive and legislative branches of state government
7 and the University of Alaska; it does not mean the Alaska Railroad
8 Corporation or an agency of the judicial branch of government.

9 * Sec. 3. AS 44.21.150 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 44.21.150. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. It is the purpose of
11 AS 44.21.150 - 44.21.170 to designate the Department of Administration
12 as the department responsible for the operation and management of
13 automatic data processing resources and activities of the executive
14 and legislative branches of state government and the judicial branch
15 to the extent requested by that branch, to provide for cooperation
16 between the department and the Telecommunications Information Council
17 in the Office of the Governor, and to provide for periodic review of
18 state automatic data processing procedures and mechanisms. It is
19 further the purpose of these sections to encourage cooperation between
20 the state government and local governments in the use of automatic
21 data processing systems.

22 * Sec. 4. AS 44.21.160(a) is amended to read:

23 (a) Except as otherwise provided in (g) of this section, the
24 department shall comply with the state information systems plan adopt-
25 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council in the Office of the
26 Governor in providing [PROVIDE] automatic data processing services
27 responsive to the needs of state government [AND PROCURE, OPERATE AND
28 STAFF ALL AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT FACILITIES USED BY STATE
29 GOVERNMENT].

1 * Sec. 5. AS 44.21.160(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) To carry out (a) of this section the department may, consis-
3 tent with the state information systems plan adopted by the Telecommu-
4 nications Information Council and with the departmental information
5 systems plan,

6 (1) maintain a central staff of systems analysts, computer
7 programmers and other staff members sufficient to provide systems
8 analysis and computer programming support required by the executive,
9 legislative, and judicial branches of state government;

10 (2) develop and maintain both short-range and long-range
11 data processing plans for state government and provide managerial
12 leadership in the use of automatic data processing;

13 (3) review all budget requests for automatic data process-
14 ing services and recommend to the Telecommunications Information
15 Council and the governor approval, modification, or disapproval;

16 (4) recommend implementation priorities of requested data
17 processing systems;

18 (5) determine and satisfy the data processing equipment and
19 supply requirements of the branches, departments and agencies of state
20 government;

21 (6) provide all facilities, equipment, and staff required
22 to convert data to a form suitable for processing on automatic data
23 processing equipment;

24 (7) develop and publish systems analysis, computer program-
25 ming and computer operations standards;

26 (8) review state automatic data processing systems to
27 encourage effectiveness, measure performance, and assure adherence to
28 the standards developed under AS 44.21.150 - 44.21.170;

29 (9) develop and conduct an automatic data processing

1 training program designed to serve the technical and managerial needs
2 of state government;

3 (10) [REQUIRE EACH STATE AGENCY TO PROCURE ITS AUTOMATIC
4 DATA PROCESSING SERVICES FROM THE DEPARTMENT;

5 (11)] charge a state agency or other governmental agency for
6 the cost of the automatic data processing services provided or pro-
7 cured by the department for the agency.

8 * Sec. 6. AS 44.21.160(d) is amended to read:

9 (d) In accordance with the state information systems plan adopt-
10 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council, the [THE] department
11 and the University of Alaska may develop and implement a plan for the
12 integration of automatic data processing facilities of the university
13 [UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA] with the state facilities. [HOWEVER, THE
14 INTEGRATION PLAN AUTHORIZED BY THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE PUT INTO
15 OPERATION UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
16 AND THE DEPARTMENT.]

17 * Sec. 7. AS 44.21.160(e) is repealed and reenacted to read:

18 (e) If the action is not contrary to the state information
19 systems plan adopted by the Telecommunications Information Council,
20 this section does not prohibit

21 (1) the department from obtaining necessary contractual
22 assistance for automatic data processing activities;

23 (2) the legislature or judicial system from recruiting and
24 employing data processing personnel or from obtaining necessary con-
25 tractual assistance for automatic data processing activities.

26 * Sec. 8. AS 44.21.266 is amended to read:

27 Sec. 44.21.266. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. The commission shall

28 (1) [REPEALED

29 (2) REPEALED

1 (3) REPEALED

2 (4)] apply for federal and private funds for public broad-
3 casting purposes and receive all federal, state, or private funds,
4 property or assistance that may be appropriated, granted or otherwise
5 made available to the commission for public broadcasting purposes, and
6 use and disburse funds and property for purposes consistent with the
7 terms of AS 44.21.256 - 44.21.290, subject to reasonable limitations
8 imposed by the grantor;

9 (2) [(5)] provide consultative services in all aspects of
10 public broadcasting to all public or private agencies in the state
11 which request them;

12 (3) [(6)] serve as a library and clearinghouse for public
13 broadcasting information;

14 (4) [(7) REPEALED

15 (8) REPEALED

16 (9)] through grants to qualified entities, develop an inte-
17 grated public broadcasting network for the state;

18 (5) [(10) REPEALED

19 (11)] through grants to qualified entities, develop and
20 distribute public broadcasting programming in the state;

21 (6) [(12)] prepare and submit to the governor and the
22 legislature, in compliance with the state information systems plan
23 adopted by [CONSULTATION WITH] the Telecommunications Information
24 Council in the Office of the Governor [TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISIONS IN
25 THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION], a long term plan for the develop-
26 ment of public broadcasting stations and systems in the state, and
27 annually update the plan; and

28 (7) [(13)] perform all other functions necessary to ensure
29 the orderly and coordinated development of public broadcasting in the

1 state.

2 * Sec. 9. AS 44.21.310(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) In accordance with the state information systems plan adopt-
4 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council and with the depart-
5 mental information systems plan, the [THE] department shall

6 (1) advise the council and the governor on matters of
7 policy and comprehensive state planning for telecommunications ser-
8 vices;

9 (2) make an annual report to the governor and to the legis-
10 lature on the activities of the department;

11 (3) coordinate, manage, and supervise state programs in
12 telecommunications, including the management of those telecommunica-
13 tion services for the state obtained from common carriers and from the
14 communications industry;

15 (4) when requested, provide technical and consulting assis-
16 tance to the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of state
17 government, to the University of Alaska, and to private noncommercial
18 entities which request that assistance in facility procurement and
19 leasing and in identifying long-range goals and objectives for the
20 state and its political subdivisions in all aspects of telecommunica-
21 tions, including public, educational, and instructional telecommunica-
22 tions;

23 (5) prepare and maintain a state comprehensive telecommu-
24 nications development plan to further state telecommunications devel-
25 opment and to meet state telecommunications needs and prepare and
26 maintain a comprehensive inventory of all state communications facil-
27 ities;

28 (6) whenever feasible, procure services from private enter-
29 prise or certified and franchised utilities and contract for the

1 construction, management, operation, and maintenance of telecommunica-
2 tions systems, and develop a procurement policy consistent with
3 AS 36.30 (State Procurement Code); the procurement policy must seek to
4 achieve the maximum benefit to the public, and methods of procurement,
5 including lease, purchase, rental, or combinations of lease, purchase,
6 and rental, must be selected on the basis of factors such as the ratio
7 of long-range costs versus benefits, life cycle costing, and the costs
8 to the communications industry to the extent that these costs may
9 affect local and long distance basic telephone rates; procurement,
10 contracting, construction, and maintenance under this paragraph is
11 governed by AS 36.30;

12 (7) provide information and assistance to state agencies to
13 promote governmental coordination and unity in the preparation of
14 agency plans and programs involving the use of telecommunications;

15 (8) apply for and accept federal and private money, proper-
16 ty, or assistance, that may be appropriated, granted, or otherwise
17 made available to the department and use and disburse money and prop-
18 erty for purposes consistent with AS 44.21.300 - 44.21.330 and AS 44.-
19 21.256 - 44.21.290, subject to reason-able limitations imposed by the
20 grantor;

21 (9) participate with other governmental units in planning,
22 and assist local governments and governmental conferences and councils
23 in the state in planning and coordinating their activities relating to
24 telecommunications;

25 (10) provide for the orderly transition to new telecommu-
26 nications services and systems by state agencies;

27 (11) serve as a clearinghouse for information, data, and
28 other materials which may be necessary or helpful to federal, state,
29 or local governmental agencies in the development of telecommunication

1 systems;

2 (12) coordinate department services and activities with
3 those of other state departments and agencies to the fullest extent
4 possible to avoid unnecessary duplication; and

5 (13) provide that all activities of the department are
6 responsive to state statutes and regulations, and to the regulations
7 and rulings of the Federal Communications Commission.

8 * Sec. 10. AS 44.21.315(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) In accordance with the state information systems plan adopt-
10 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council and with the depart-
11 mental information systems plan, the [THE] department shall provide

12 (1) technical consultation to educational and public tele-
13 communications users;

14 (2) coordination and support to telecommunications services
15 for instruction, including technical assistance and assistance in
16 preparation of applications for grants related to program development
17 as may be requested by

18 (A) public school districts and the Department of
19 Education;

20 (B) the University of Alaska; and

21 (C) other state agencies as approved by the [DEPUTY]
22 commissioner;

23 (3) coordination and support for health and safety-related
24 functions, including the administrative and client services provided
25 by state, federal, and private agencies;

26 (4) coordination and support to telecommunications services
27 for public participation in state-financed services, including the
28 public hearing process, as may be statutorily required or otherwise
29 appropriate;

1 (5) assistance, through design, development, and promotion,
2 to local school districts or other local and regional education agen-
3 cies for the regionalization of instructional telecommunications
4 services;

5 (6) establishment of operational policies for public tele-
6 communications services other than public broadcasting; and

7 (7) assistance to the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission
8 and any commission-designated subcommittees, as necessary to perform
9 assigned department functions; the department shall cooperate with the
10 commission and subcommittees in order to develop policies which are
11 responsive to the user groups which are represented on the commission.

12 * Sec. 11. AS 44.21.320(e) is amended to read:

13 (e) Nothing in AS 44.21.300 - 44.21.330 prohibits a state agency
14 from developing telecommunications systems within its own agency if
15 the agency is in compliance with the state information systems plan
16 adopted by the Telecommunications Information Council and with the
17 agency's own information systems plan and if the commissioner gives
18 written authorization for the agency to engage in its own design,
19 development, management, or operation. The commissioner may authorize
20 independent development only upon a showing of necessity. A descrip-
21 tion of all authorization under this subsection must be included in
22 the annual report required under AS 44.21.310(a)(2).

23 * Sec. 12. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Bill Version: CSHB 40(Tele)
 Publish Date: HOUSE 4/10/87

Revision Date: _____
 Title: An Act Creating Telecommuni-
cation Information Council
 Sponsor: Boucher
 Requestor: House Special Committee

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
 BRU: Office of Management and Budget

Components: Division of Policy

on Telecommunications

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES		52.5				
TRAVEL		5.0				
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		57.5				

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		57.5				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		57.5				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director
 Division: Division of Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3616
 Date: 4/6/87

Approved by Commissioner: Carol P. Kastelic
 Agency: Office of the Governor

Date: 4/6/87

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)
 Senate Secretary

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Bill Version: CSHB 40(Tele)
Publish Date: HOUSE 4/10/87

269
REQUEST

Revision Date: April 7, 1987

Title: Telecommunications

Agency Affected: Administration

BRU:

Sponsor: Boucher

Requestor:

Components:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

It is assumed that the Council will replace the need for the Information Systems Committee (ISC) as it exists today. The Department of Administration would devote the minimal resources currently used in support of the ISC to support the Council.

Prepared By: Karen Morgan *Karen R. Morgan*
Division: Data Resources Management

Phone: 465-2220

Date: April 7, 1987

Approved by Commissioner: Garrey Peska *[Signature]*
Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 4/15/87

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)
Senate Secretary

4-7-87

Meeting

Alaska State Legislature

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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4931

DISTRICT 10
BOX 111038
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99511
(907) 349-2192



CHAIRMAN
Special Committee on
Telecommunications

MEMBER
Labor and Commerce
State Affairs
Finance—Subcommittee Administration

Representative H. A. "Red" Boucher

HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA

APRIL 7, 1987

CS HB 40: AN ACT CREATING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR.

THE COMMITTEE PACKET CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

1. CSHB 40 (4/7 draft)
2. Amendments to CSHB 40
3. Letter of Intent, CSHB 40
4. Fiscal Note

Original sponsor: Boucher

4-7-87

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 40 (Telecommunications)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Telecommunications Information Council in the Office of the Governor; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to establish a council to develop and implement a cost-effective policy for managing the state's information and information technology resources in a comprehensive and coordinated manner so that state government may better serve the people of the state.

* Sec. 2. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 16. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL.

Sec. 44.19.502. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL. (a)

There is created within the Office of the Governor the Telecommunications Information Council.

(b) The council is composed of the governor, the commissioner from each principal department of the executive branch, the president of the University of Alaska, the executive director of the Legislative Affairs Agency, and the executive director of the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. The chief justice of the supreme court may appoint a member to serve on the council.

(c) The governor shall preside over the council. The council shall meet at least four times each year. The council may meet more frequently at the call of the chair or if requested by a majority of the council's members.

1 (d) The Office of the Governor shall provide professional and
2 clerical staff for the council.

3 Sec. 44.19.504. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The council shall

4 (1) establish guidelines and prepare a state short-range
5 and long-range information systems plan to meet state needs;

6 (2) establish guidelines and direct state agencies to
7 prepare agency information systems plans;

8 (3) establish guidelines for the accessing of information
9 by the public;

10 (4) publish in the first quarter of each calendar year a
11 report on the activities of the council.

12 (b) In addition to its duties under (a) of this section, the
13 council may establish policies and engage in activities it considers
14 necessary or appropriate.

15 (c) This section does not grant council responsibility for
16 broadcast programming content. Program design, production, and use
17 are the responsibility of the program-sponsoring agency or other
18 entity.

19 (d) This section does not prohibit a state agency from devel-
20 oping information systems within its own agency if the council gives
21 written authorization for the user agency to engage in its own design,
22 development, management, or operation. The council may authorize
23 independent development only upon a showing of necessity. A descrip-
24 tion of authorization under this subsection shall be included in the
25 annual report required under AS 44.19.504.

26 (e) A state agency authorized to develop an internal information
27 system shall coordinate its design, development, management, and
28 operation with the council.

29 Sec. 44.19.519. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.19.502 - 44.19.519

1 (1) "council" means the Telecommunications Information
2 Council;

3 (2) "state agencies" means all departments, divisions, and
4 offices in the executive and legislative branches of state government
5 and the University of Alaska; it does not mean the Alaska Railroad
6 Corporation or an agency of the judicial branch of government.

7 * Sec. 3. AS 44.21.150 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 44.21.150. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. It is the purpose of
9 AS 44.21.150 - 44.21.170 to designate the Department of Administration
10 as the department responsible for the operation and management of
11 automatic data processing resources and activities of the executive
12 and legislative branches of state government and the judicial branch
13 to the extent requested by that branch, to provide for cooperation
14 between the department and the Telecommunications Information Council
15 in the Office of the Governor, and to provide for periodic review of
16 state automatic data processing procedures and mechanisms. It is
17 further the purpose of these sections to encourage cooperation between
18 the state government and local governments in the use of automatic
19 data processing systems.

20 * Sec. 4. AS 44.21.160(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) Except as otherwise provided in (g) of this section, the
22 department shall comply with the state information systems plan adopt-
23 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council in the Office of the
24 Governor in providing [PROVIDE] automatic data processing services
25 responsive to the needs of state government [AND PROCURE, OPERATE AND
26 STAFF ALL AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT FACILITIES USED BY STATE
27 GOVERNMENT].

28 * Sec. 5. AS 44.21.160(b) is amended to read:

29 (b) To carry out (a) of this section the department may,

1 consistent with the state information systems plan adopted by the
2 Telecommunications Information Council and with the departmental
3 information systems plan,

4 (1) maintain a central staff of systems analysts, computer
5 programmers and other staff members sufficient to provide systems
6 analysis and computer programming support required by the executive,
7 legislative, and judicial branches of state government;

8 (2) develop and maintain both short-range and long-range
9 data processing plans for state government and provide managerial
10 leadership in the use of automatic data processing;

11 (3) review all budget requests for automatic data process-
12 ing services and recommend to the Telecommunications Information
13 Council and the governor approval, modification, or disapproval;

14 (4) recommend implementation priorities of requested data
15 processing systems;

16 (5) determine and satisfy the data processing equipment and
17 supply requirements of the branches, departments and agencies of state
18 government;

19 (6) provide all facilities, equipment, and staff required
20 to convert data to a form suitable for processing on automatic data
21 processing equipment;

22 (7) develop and publish systems analysis, computer program-
23 ming and computer operations standards;

24 (8) review state automatic data processing systems to
25 encourage effectiveness, measure performance, and assure adherence to
26 the standards developed under AS 44.21.150 - 44.21.170;

27 (9) develop and conduct an automatic data processing train-
28 ing program designed to serve the technical and managerial needs of
29 state government;

1 (10) [REQUIRE EACH STATE AGENCY TO PROCURE ITS AUTOMATIC
2 DATA PROCESSING SERVICES FROM THE DEPARTMENT;

3 (11)] charge a state agency or other governmental agency for
4 the cost of the automatic data processing services provided or pro-
5 cured by the department for the agency.

6 * Sec. 6. AS 44.21.160(d) is amended to read:

7 (d) In accordance with the state information systems plan adopt-
8 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council, the [THE] department
9 may develop and implement a plan for the integration of automatic data
10 processing facilities of the University of Alaska with the state
11 facilities. [HOWEVER, THE INTEGRATION PLAN AUTHORIZED BY THIS SUB-
12 SECTION MAY NOT BE PUT INTO OPERATION UNTIL APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
13 OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA AND THE DEPARTMENT.]

14 * Sec. 7. AS 44.21.160(e) is repealed and reenacted to read:

15 (e) If the action is not contrary to the state information
16 systems plan adopted by the Telecommunications Information Council,
17 this section does not prohibit

18 (1) the department from obtaining necessary contractual
19 assistance for automatic data processing activities;

20 (2) the legislature or judicial system from recruiting and
21 employing data processing personnel or from obtaining necessary con-
22 tractual assistance for automatic data processing activities.

23 * Sec. 8. AS 44.21.266 is amended to read:

24 Sec. 44.21.266. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. The commission shall

25 (1) [REPEALED

26 (2) REPEALED

27 (3) REPEALED

28 (4)] apply for federal and private funds for public broad-
29 casting purposes and receive all federal, state, or private funds.

1 property or assistance that may be appropriated, granted or otherwise
2 made available to the commission for public broadcasting purposes, and
3 use and disburse funds and property for purposes consistent with the
4 terms of AS 44.21.256 - 44.21.290, subject to reasonable limitations
5 imposed by the grantor;

6 (2) [(5)] provide consultative services in all aspects of
7 public broadcasting to all public or private agencies in the state
8 which request them;

9 (3) [(6)] serve as a library and clearinghouse for public
10 broadcasting information;

11 (4) [(7) REPEALED

12 (8) REPEALED

13 (9)] through grants to qualified entities, develop an inte-
14 grated public broadcasting network for the state;

15 (5) [(10) REPEALED

16 [(11)] through grants to qualified entities, develop and
17 distribute public broadcasting programming in the state;

18 (6) [(12)] prepare and submit to the governor and the
19 legislature, in compliance with the state information systems plan
20 adopted by [CONSULTATION WITH] the Telecommunications Information
21 Council in the Office of the Governor [TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISIONS IN
22 THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION], a long term plan for the develop-
23 ment of public broadcasting stations and systems in the state, and
24 annually update the plan; and

25 (7) [(13)] perform all other functions necessary to ensure
26 the orderly and coordinated development of public broadcasting in the
27 state.

28 * Sec. 9. AS 44.21.310(a) is amended to read:

29 (a) In accordance with the state information systems plan

1 adopted by the Telecommunications Information Council and with the
2 departmental information systems plan, the [THE] department shall

3 (1) advise the council and the governor on matters of
4 policy and comprehensive state planning for telecommunications ser-
5 vices;

6 (2) make an annual report to the governor and to the legis-
7 lature on the activities of the department;

8 (3) coordinate, manage, and supervise state programs in
9 telecommunications, including the management of those telecommunica-
10 tion services for the state obtained from common carriers and from the
11 communications industry;

12 (4) when requested, provide technical and consulting assis-
13 tance to the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of state
14 government, to the University of Alaska, and to private noncommercial
15 entities which request that assistance in facility procurement and
16 leasing and in identifying long-range goals and objectives for the
17 state and its political subdivisions in all aspects of telecommunica-
18 tions, including public, educational, and instructional telecommunica-
19 tions;

20 (5) prepare and maintain a state comprehensive telecommu-
21 nications development plan to further state telecommunications devel-
22 opment and to meet state telecommunications needs and prepare and
23 maintain a comprehensive inventory of all state communications facil-
24 ities;

25 (6) whenever feasible, procure services from private enter-
26 prise or certified and franchised utilities and contract for the
27 construction, management, operation, and maintenance of telecommunica-
28 tions systems, and develop a procurement policy consistent with AS
29 36.30 (State Procurement Code); the procurement policy must seek to

1 achieve the maximum benefit to the public, and methods of procurement,
2 including lease, purchase, rental, or combinations of lease, purchase,
3 and rental, must be selected on the basis of factors such as the ratio
4 of long-range costs versus benefits, life cycle costing, and the costs
5 to the communications industry to the extent that these costs may
6 affect local and long distance basic telephone rates; procurement,
7 contracting, construction, and maintenance under this paragraph is
8 governed by AS 36.30;

9 (7) provide information and assistance to state agencies to
10 promote governmental coordination and unity in the preparation of
11 agency plans and programs involving the use of telecommunications;

12 (8) apply for and accept federal and private money, proper-
13 ty, or assistance, that may be appropriated, granted, or otherwise
14 made available to the department and use and disburse money and prop-
15 erty for purposes consistent with AS 44.21.300 - 44.21.330 and AS 44.-
16 21.256 - 44.21.290, subject to reasonable limitations imposed by the
17 grantor;

18 (9) participate with other governmental units in planning,
19 and assist local governments and governmental conferences and councils
20 in the state in planning and coordinating their activities relating to
21 telecommunications;

22 (10) provide for the orderly transition to new telecommu-
23 nications services and systems by state agencies;

24 (11) serve as a clearinghouse for information, data, and
25 other materials which may be necessary or helpful to federal, state,
26 or local governmental agencies in the development of telecommunication
27 systems;

28 (12) coordinate department services and activities with
29 those of other state departments and agencies to the fullest extent

1 possible to avoid unnecessary duplication; and

2 (13) provide that all activities of the department are
3 responsive to state statutes and regulations, and to the regulations
4 and rulings of the Federal Communications Commission.

5 * Sec. 10. AS 44.21.315(a) is amended to read:

6 (a) In accordance with the state information systems plan adopt-
7 ed by the Telecommunications Information Council and with the depart-
8 mental information systems plan, the [THE] department shall provide

9 (1) technical consultation to educational and public tele-
10 communications users;

11 (2) coordination and support to telecommunications services
12 for instruction, including technical assistance and assistance in
13 preparation of applications for grants related to program development
14 as may be requested by

15 (A) public school districts and the Department of
16 Education;

17 (B) the University of Alaska; and

18 (C) other state agencies as approved by the [DEPUTY]
19 commissioner;

20 (3) coordination and support for health and safety-related
21 functions, including the administrative and client services provided
22 by state, federal, and private agencies;

23 (4) coordination and support to telecommunications services
24 for public participation in state-financed services, including the
25 public hearing process, as may be statutorily required or otherwise
26 appropriate;

27 (5) assistance, through design, development, and promotion,
28 to local school districts or other local and regional education agen-
29 cies for the regionalization of instructional telecommunications

1 services;

2 (6) establishment of operational policies for public tele-
3 communications services other than public broadcasting; and

4 (7) assistance to the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission
5 and any commission-designated subcommittees, as necessary to perform
6 assigned department functions; the department shall cooperate with the
7 commission and subcommittees in order to develop policies which are
8 responsive to the user groups which are represented on the commission.

9 * Sec. 11. AS 44.21.320(e) is amended to read:

10 (e) Nothing in AS 44.21.300 - 44.21.330 prohibits a state agency
11 from developing telecommunications systems within its own agency if
12 the agency is in compliance with the state information systems plan
13 adopted by the Telecommunications Information Council and with the
14 agency's own information systems plan and if the commissioner gives
15 written authorization for the agency to engage in its own design,
16 development, management, or operation. The commissioner may authorize
17 independent development only upon a showing of necessity. A descrip-
18 tion of all authorization under this subsection must be included in
19 the annual report required under AS 44.21.310(a)(2).

20 * Sec. 12. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.
21
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29

Alaska State Legislature

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CHAIRMAN
Special Committee on
Telecommunications

MEMBER
Labor and Commerce
State Affairs
Finance—Subcommittee Administration

Representative H. A. "Red" Boucher

AMENDMENTS TO CSHB 40

Amendments to 3/31 draft, as reflected in the 4/6 draft.

- * Council members were upgrded from "representatives" to "commissioners" from the principal departments.
- * The governor is made the chairman of the council.
- * The duties of the council were reduced from ten to four.
- * The definitions were reduced from eight to two.
- * Section 8 was eliminated. (Section 8 dealt with relations between Telecommunications and Data Processing within DOA. It had been amended due to a misunderstanding on the part of the drafter)
- * Section 13. TRANSITION., was eliminated because it was no longer appropriate due to changes in council makeup.

Amendments to 4/6 draft, as reflected in 4/7 draft.

page 2, line 10.

(4) publish in the first quarter of each calendar year a [AN ANNUAL] report on the activities of the council.

page 2, line 15

(c) This section does not grant council responsibility for broadcast programming content. Program design, production, and use are the responsibility of the program-sponsoring agency or other entity.

page 3, Section 4.

DOA is no longer required to "procure, operate, and staff" all data processing facilities.

#1) to the 4/7 draft suggested by the University of

subsection (d)

(d) This section does not prohibit a state agency from developing information systems which are inconsistent with the guidelines established in subsection (a) within its own agency if the council gives written authorization for the user agency to engage in inconsistent [ITS OWN] design, development, management, or operation. The council may authorize inconsistent [INDEPENDENT] development only upon a showing of necessity. A description of authorization under this subsection shall be included in the annual report required under AS 44.19.504. [(e)] A state agency authorized to develop an inconsistent internal information system shall coordinate its design, development, management, and operation with the council.

Amendments to 4/7 draft suggested by Committee staff

page 2, subsection (e)

(e) A state agency [AUTHORIZED TO DEVELOP AN INTERNAL INFORMATION SYSTEM] shall coordinate the [ITS] design, development, management, and operation of its internal information system with the council except to the extent inconsistent development is authorized under subsection (d).

University suggested amendment (#2)

page 5, Section 6.

Remove "and implement" from line 9. (The Council will have the implementation authority, not DOA.)

CORRECTION

**THIS DOCUMENT
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

Amendment (#1) to the 4/7 draft suggested by the University of Alaska

page 2, subsection (d)

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Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House

P.O. BOX V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

House Special Committee on Telecommunications

LETTER OF INTENT

CSHB 40 (Telecommunications)

It was the intent of the House Special Committee on Telecommunications to provide through CSHB 40 (Telecommunications) a high level body to oversee the making of telecommunication policy for the State of Alaska. The oversight responsibilities of this body would include information systems within state government and broadcast systems throughout the state.

It was the belief of the Committee that formation of a Telecommunications Information Council within the Office of the Governor would make possible effective management of a major resource that has until recently attracted little notice: Information.

It was the belief of the Committee that intelligent use of this resource is critical to the continued development of this state and that it can be used to help counter the impact of declining oil revenues.

By making the heads of major state departments members of the council and by calling for the Governor to sit as chairman, CSHB 40 is intended to signal to all state agencies the importance that is attached to efficient management of this information resource. It was the belief of the House committee that only state officials as high ranking as this possess the authority to make the telecommunication policy decisions which are necessary now. It is anticipated that the staff work for the council would be the responsibility of a high level member of the Governor's Office and that it would require 25 percent or more of that person's time.

Information Management

Much of the work of state government involves the movement of information. The first step in the development of an Information Resource Management system within the state government has already been taken. Individual departments have

data bases and some are developing systems for moving information. These systems can enable state agencies to make better decisions, to make them more quickly, and to make decisions in areas that are now neglected. This can not, however, happen within a policy vacuum.

CSHB 40 is intended to enable the state government to take its second and third steps in Information Resource Management. The information systems we have today have developed with minimal overall direction. They need to be evaluated. Is the information within them the information needed to enable government to do its job well? Does this information get to those who need it -- and in time? This bill would create a mechanism for this kind of evaluation. It would also create a body able to address the broader policy implications of the movement of information within the state government. It creates a body able to address such issues as how to move information across agency lines, and how to move it between state agencies and the private sector.

The information systems that are being used today include the telephone and teleconferencing as well as computers. These systems will change as new applications such as teletext and videotex are refined. Understanding of the technologies is important, and there are those in state government who are already charged with addressing technological issues. The council would draw on the knowledge of these people.

But what is needed most -- and what the proposed council can provide -- is leadership in determining what information we want.

Actions in this area that might be taken by the council:

- *review state and agency information systems plans. Are they compatible? Will they help achieve state and agency goals?

- *provide direction to agencies as they develop data bases and information systems;

- *review all changes proposed by agencies in their information systems;

- *identify needed changes that have not been recognized by anyone else. What can be done that isn't being done to get the right information to the right people in the right form at the right time?

The council's efforts should result in data bases that provide similar information in comparable form across departments. Information systems should be able to easily

transmit that information from department to department. Some of the information systems within state government today -- such as the University of Alaska Computer Network and the State of Alaska Computer System -- are incompatible. It is in the interest of the state to find a way to move information between these systems.

The council can make government better without making it more expensive. It can help agencies improve their services by assuring that they get better information to work with. It can also make government more efficient by identifying and eliminating information activities that serve no useful purpose.

Broadcast System

The state government has played a major and essential role in the development of a broadcast system that now encompasses the state. This system today includes the Rural Alaska TV Network channel and the public radio and public television stations supported through the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. The state has also contributed to the development of commercial radio and television.

Without this system, many communities would not have access to timely information about the larger world they are a part of. They would be effectively disenfranchised from the democratic process. For many Alaskans, the broadcast system remains the only means of access to the state's information resources.

Although Alaska's broadcast system provides information of value to its users, it is not generally regarded as an information system. But already the voice and digital networks are converging. For several months now, the University of Alaska has been sending over the RATNET channel digital information that could be received with special equipment throughout the state. The council may choose to treat broadcast issues as relatively separate from information issues. That separation is unlikely to continue for long. In the future -- given the development of transmission networks and communication centers that will merge voice and data communications -- the state's broadcast and information systems will appear far less distinct than they do today.

The broadcast system, like the information systems, requires continued evaluation and improvement. The second major task of the telecommunications council would be to address that requirement. There does not now exist any body with the responsibility or the power to assure that this telecommunication system is managed in a way that assures the state's information needs are being served.

There is a need to determine what categories of programming it is in the interest of the state government to provide Alaskans. It is then necessary to identify the most efficient means of providing this programming. Finally, the state must provide support. All this can be done without interfering with program content decisions. All this must be done if the state is to be assured that its broadcast dollars are being well spent.

There is also a need to assure the preservation -- even the growth -- of the statewide telecommunication system. This system has been a major factor in Alaska's development. It has brought political debates, news of the world as well as tv classrooms to villages that lack daily mail service and local newspapers and have only one or two local teachers. It has been used to carry emergency warnings and as a community message service. It has provided fisheries information to fishermen.

This system can provide entertainment, information, services; it can foster awareness of the state as a community. Ten years from now this system may carry kinds of information that we do not even recognize today. It can do many things -- but only if it is there. The proposed council can make sure that it is there.

Many alternatives are being discussed today for the further development of broadcast telecommunication in Alaska. These include cable TV, direct broadcast satellite TV, and use of low power TV for community programming. Should the state encourage the development of regional or local "information utilities" that would assume the primary responsibility for information flows within their areas? It is the belief of the House Special Committee on Telecommunications that the proposed council would be the body best qualified to address the issue of how telecommunication should develop.

Conclusion

The mandate of the proposed Telecommunications Information Council is broad. The state's telecommunication system is as extensive and as complex as its transportation system. The council would be the only body with responsibility for all of it.

Its role would be similar to that of the Supreme Court in interpreting the Constitution: The council would not concern itself with narrow issues and with details except when these elements are relevant to more general concerns about telecommunication.

The council's focus as it considers telecommunication should be on the horizon, not on the innards of the information machine. Hardware's fine, but we mustn't lose sight of what we want to do with it. The Telecommunications Information Council is our assurance that we won't.

Representative H.A. "Red" Boucher
Chairman, House Special Committee on Telecommunications

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Bill Version: CSHB 40

Publish Date: 3/31/87

Revision Date: _____

Title: An Act Creating Telecommuni-
cation Information Council

Sponsor: Boucher

Requestor: House Special Committee

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: Office of Management and Budget

Components: Division of Policy

on Telecommunications

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES		52.5				
TRAVEL		5.0				
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		57.5				

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		57.5				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		57.5				

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director
Division: Division of Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3616

Date: 4/6/87

Approved by Commissioner: Carol P. Kastelic

Agency: Office of the Governor

Date: 4/6/87

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)
Senate Secretary

4-9-87

Meeting

On the telecommunications frontier . . .

by Casimir Skrzypczak

Tomorrow's telephone promises to be the user's link to a vast store of information and a tool that will perform a myriad of tasks on command.



Photo courtesy of NYNEX

Photonic device research scientists Tien Pei Lee and Serafin Menocal conduct research in optical fiber systems and wideband integrated services digital network (ISDN) at Bellcore, the research and engineering consortium owned jointly by the seven companies formed as a result of the Bell System breakup.

It's 8:00 a.m. in Albany, New York, and Assemblyman Smith, who has just reviewed proposed tax legislation, picks up his phone and verbally commands his computer system to retrieve the bill from the state's central data base. With telephone still in hand, he dictates a memo to a colleague explaining why the bill should be passed. His dictation is automatically converted to machine-readable format and then into a typed letter format. He instructs the system to send a copy of the bill, along with his memo, to his colleague via electronic mail. The package is automatically routed over the telephone network.

All is accomplished using the telephone network, without human intervention, without looking up a telephone number or remembering a code — without even pushing a button. Though this scenario may sound like the stuff of scientists' dreams or Star Trek movies, an unprecedented explosion in telecommunications technology may make it possible in the not too distant future.

The last five years have seen tremendous breakthroughs in such technological frontiers as fiber optics, cellular radio, artificial intelligence and speech recognition. Integrating these technologies with increasingly sophisticated telecommunications systems has enabled the telecommunications industry to develop a truly science fiction-like concept — a universal intelligent network that deals not with a telephone number asso-

ciated with a particular instrument but rather with a telephone number, and accompanying set of services, associated with an individual. These services may be as simple or complex as the individual chooses. They may be accessed from any telephone regardless of location, and using them will be no more difficult than casual conversation.

For example, the assemblyman's colleague was not in her Albany office this week, but back home tending to a crisis with a group of constituents. She instructed the network to forward only calls from the governor to her home office. All other calls would be forwarded to her "voice mailbox" so she could retrieve them at a more convenient time.

Technology has infused the telecommunications network with astounding power. Today's telephone network is nothing less than a massive computer. Its capabilities could be expanded infinitely using innovative software. By giving customers their own "personal" data base within the network, telecommunications companies will be able to offer customers services such as personal telephone numbers that will enable them to receive calls at any customer-designated location — home, office, or an automobile or another transitory location equipped with a cellular phone.

Using such a system, customers themselves, not just telephone company employees, will be able to control personal data in the network, to alter the services they receive and control and determine how, when and where they will receive them.

Integrated services digital network (ISDN), a widely discussed and researched concept in telecom-

Mr. Skrzypczak is vice president of science and technology for NYNEX Corporation, one of seven independent companies formed after the breakup of the Bell System.

munications circles, will provide the medium for such a universal intelligent network. ISDN is a network architecture which allows voice, data and video to be transmitted simultaneously over a single line. In practical terms, ISDN will give customers the flexibility and cost efficiency of connecting with one standard link a telephone, personal computer and video monitor, as well as other equipment. Wideband ISDN will have the power to give customers access to the entire Library of Congress in 30 seconds — without ever leaving their homes or offices.

Telecommunications companies have already started expanding the intelligence of their networks. Digital telephone equipment is being installed at a frantic pace. Fiber-optics, hair-thin strands of glass that can carry as many as 6,000 voice or data "conversations" at one time, is rapidly replacing copper wiring.

Some companies have developed transitional services to the universal intelligent network and ISDN. Advanced digital network services are being offered to business customers in some areas. Illinois Bell Telephone Company and the McDonald's Corporation recently embarked on the first commercial ISDN trial. And the seven companies formed as a result of the Bell System breakup are using intelligent network and ISDN architecture to offer the first toll-free 800 service to compete with AT&T's 800 service.

But these are only a glimmer of the many services on the horizon. Further progress depends on overcoming some significant hurdles.

First, there are technological hurdles. Historically, the pace of technological progress has depended on the development of specific technologies. Prior to the 1930s, technological evolution was contingent on progress in mechanics. This was followed by periods of critical development in electrics and electronics and, more recently, in photonics or optics. Increasingly, software is proving to be the critical element in determining the rate of technological advance. This stage of development, known as informatics, will enable the telecom-

munications industry to take full advantage of optics, electronics and mechanics.

Looking past the informatics age, further evolution will be determined by ergonomics — the ability to create machines that interface with humans the same way humans like to interface with each other. In other words, an intelligent telephone network must be easy to use if it is to receive universal acceptance and widespread participation.

Research in speech recognition and artificial intelligence shows great promise. In fact, a telephone system that recognizes verbal commands such as "conference this call" or "forward this call" may only be a couple of years away.

Another major challenge to development of a universal intelligent network and ISDN is the development of technical standards that enable various types of equip-

ment, regardless of manufacturer, to be easily interconnected. The computer industry today is a classic example of an industry that is inhibited by a lack of standards. Significant standards progress has been achieved in the telecommunications industry, but more work remains to be done.

Finally, there are significant regulatory and legal issues to be resolved. Technology, combined with the universal availability of the existing telephone network, could bring the services described here — and others not yet dreamed of — to all customers by the 1990s. But the regulatory environment must be open enough to permit the developments needed to make it possible.

The universal intelligent network of the future is technologically within grasp. Now it is up to the public policymakers to determine whether its benefits will indeed be universally available. □



Photo courtesy of Fibronics International Inc.

The information expressways of the future, such as those depicted in this artist's conception, will make communication possible "in a flash of light."

2-2-87

Meeting

The Telecommunications Information Council

Legislative History
and
Implementation Plan

The House Special Committee
on Telecommunications

funding provided by

The Senate Finance Committee
and
The House of Representatives

September 1987

Senate Finance Committee

Senators Don Bennett and John Binkley
Co-Chairmen

House Special Committee on Telecommunications

Rep. H.A. "Red" Boucher
Chairman

Rep. Bill Hudson
Vice Chairman

Rep. Fran Ulmer

Rep. Fritz Pettyjohn

Rep. Virginia M. Collins

Written by

Larry Pearson
Assistant Professor

with the support of

The Department of Journalism and Public Communications
Professor Sylvia Broady, Chair
University of Alaska Anchorage

Executive Summary

This report was prepared at the request of the House Special Committee on Telecommunications with funding provided by the Senate Finance Committee and the House of Representatives. Other support was provided by the Department of Journalism and Public Communications of the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The report includes a review of the events that led to creation of the Telecommunications Information Council. It also includes an interpretation of the Council's powers and duties, and recommendations as to how it might initially proceed.

The Council was created in response to a need for centralized direction of telecommunications policymaking that had been recognized within both the Executive and Legislative branches of state government.

The Council has several immediate tasks. The first of these is to assert that management of information systems is a responsibility deserving the attention of top level managers. Until top managers provide policy direction to the development of information systems, they will have to settle for systems that do not fully meet their needs. The situation today, in many parts of state government, is that lower level managers with greater technical knowledge are telling top managers what they can and cannot do.

The Council is to prepare an overall plan that will allow it to intelligently manage information. This will require the Council to identify general policy objectives and to develop at a conceptual level understanding of information technologies such as networks and database management systems. It will also be necessary for the Council to obtain an inventory of information now held in computer databases.

The Council is to provide direction to individual agencies in the development of information systems plans. Such plans can lead to the generation of better quality information and to efficiencies in its production. Direction is necessary so that information is stored in forms that make it easily accessible by people in other departments and even, perhaps, in the public sector. This direction can also lead to elimination of redundant and little-used databases.

The Council is to provide guidelines for public access to computer-based information. There are a variety of ways in which

access could be provided. Other states have considered alternatives ranging from computer printouts to videotex systems.

The Council is also to provide policy direction for broadcast telecommunication systems. These are to be regarded -- the intent language of the law creating the Council says -- as information systems. Broadcast policy is now formed by government entities with conflicting interests and no one to appeal to.

These duties give the Council the power to transform the way state government operates as well as the relationship between Alaskan citizens and their government. Its actions can have a lasting economic and social impact on the state.

Legislative History

The Telecommunications Information Council: Evolution of an idea

The Telecommunications Information Council is a Cabinet-level policy making body. Its interest is in seeing that the state's telecommunication resources are used effectively to meet the needs of Alaska's citizens. Its authority comes from legislation passed by the 15th Alaska State Legislature and enacted into law by Governor Steve Cowper in June 1987.

The intent of the Legislature was to create a body capable of providing policy direction for the diverse telecommunications activities of the state government. These activities range from the internal information activities of state agencies to the support of broadcast telecommunication services that reach communities throughout the state. Telecommunication is used to support decision making within state government, to enable the citizens of Alaska to more fully participate in the political, social and economic life of the state, to instantly communicate emergency warnings, to improve the quality of education, and for entertainment. Because of the relatively small population of the state and the high cost of many of the telecommunication technologies, none of these services could be maintained at their present level without state support.

It was the belief of the Legislature that Alaska would be better served by telecommunication if a high-level body with broad oversight responsibilities for it was established.

The state has a strong record of providing technical support for a great variety of telecommunications systems. Divisions within the Department of Administration provide much of this support. The Information Resource Management Expenditure Approval Committee (also within the Department of Administration) also plays a role as a review body for expenditures on information processing. This support has made possible the development of innovative telecommunications systems such as RATNET and Learn/Alaska as well as audioconferencing networks and two statewide data communications

systems. These systems have drawn attention across the nation and even in other countries.

But centralized management of information technology is becoming increasingly difficult. This was acknowledged in Executive Branch communications that took place a year before the Legislature passed House Bill 40. A state auditor, in an April 1986 report to the Department of Administration, said:

"The current statutes [Alaska Statutes 44.21.150-170] do not accurately reflect data processing as it exists today. Management of a centralized function is vastly different from the management of a fragmented function. The actual condition of data processing in Alaska should be studied and a decision should be made as to where responsibility for managing the various data processing functions belongs. A plan should be prepared to present a structured approach to implementing a new allocation of responsibilities."

Then-Commissioner Eleanor Andrews of the Department of Administration wrote in response:

"It should be emphasized that recent changes in technology are having a greater impact on the individual than at any other time in the history of computing . . . there are thousands of employees discovering ways to do things better and recommending them to managers that are not technologically prepared to make decisions. Management is overwhelmed both by the intricacy and the volume of activity . . ."

The state's record of providing policy direction for telecommunications activities is much weaker than its record of providing technical support. At one time there was a policy body: The Governor's Office of Telecommunications. However, in the 1980s responsibilities for various parts of the state's telecommunication system have been fragmented.

The Information Systems Committee, which is concerned with computers, is an interagency group but a review of its meeting summaries since 1984 indicates that it has given most of its attention to technical rather than larger policy issues. It comes closest to taking a policy perspective in **Information Systems Planning Procedures for 1986**, in which identification of agency goals is identified as the first stage of the information systems planning process. But the goals that are being talked about in the report are information processing goals, not the business objectives of the agency. Thus even this useful document stops short of encouraging telecommunications policy formation from a management perspective.

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission is the state's policy body for public television but there is no higher policy body for it to report to. Therefore there is no one in a position to reconcile the interests of public television, the Rural Alaskan Television Network (RATNET), and educational television when they conflict. And they do conflict, as a review of RATNET minutes will show.

The absence of telecommunications policy direction has been particularly unfortunate in a time of declining state revenues. The search for economies within the telecommunication system has taken place in an environment that has provided little opportunity for discussion of the implications for Alaskans of alternative actions.

Evidence was collected by the House Special Committee on Telecommunications in 1986 which indicated this lack of direction had resulted in some decisions that had weakened the system. The evidence is presented in **Managing Alaska's Information Resources: A Proposed Statewide Policy** which became the supporting document for House Bill 40.

It appeared in the early days of the 15th Legislature that additional decisions might be taken which would weaken the telecommunication system further. These decisions were being considered because their negative implications had not been recognized. There was no body within state government that was charged with the task of identifying the consequences of such decisions for the telecommunication system as a whole. **The Future of State-Supported Broadcasting in Alaska: Final Recommendations**, which was prepared for the House Special Committee on Telecommunications during the session, became a second supporting document for House Bill 40 which later became CSHB40 and was signed into law on June 16, 1987.

It is evident from this brief legislative history that a primary mission of the Telecommunications Information Council is to assume broad responsibility for the state's telecommunication system. It should protect that which needs protection, and encourage the development of that which needs to develop. And it should be ready to discard that which is no longer useful.

The tasks of the Telecommunications Information Council as defined by the Legislature are to identify and address telecommunication policy issues and to coordinate the development of information systems. The goal of the Council is to increase the responsiveness of state supported telecommunication to the needs of its users. It is the belief of the Legislature that realization of this goal will result in economic benefits for the state government and the people it serves.

The Council is required by the law that created it to:

- *Establish guidelines and prepare a state information systems plan;
- *Direct state agencies to prepare agency information systems plans;
- *Establish guidelines for public access to information.

While the emphasis in these requirements is on information, it is clear from the language of the law that the Council is not expected to confine its activities to computer-based information systems. The emphasis in the law is on the *uses* of telecommunication, not on the technologies themselves.

Computer systems are just one means of moving information and providing access to it. As telecommunication technologies evolve, it is becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish among them. Distribution systems such as satellites and fiber optic cable move text, visual and audio information simultaneously. Computers talk and provide animated graphics. Telephones contain computers (a convergence of technologies that preoccupied the FCC in the 1960s and '70s). Television monitors show textual information. A decoder, a telephone line and a keypad can turn a television set into a computer terminal linked to remote databases. Laser discs can substitute for computer memory and traditional libraries for high volume storage of information. These convergences of technologies provide an additional argument for focusing at a policy level on what telecommunication does -- and what we want it to do -- rather than on its internal workings.

This, then, is the environment within which the new Telecommunications Information Council finds itself.

Implementation

The First Step: Return of Control to Management

The Telecommunications Information Council puts the managers back into information management. In addition, it shifts the emphasis from management of a technology to management of what that technology produces.

That, in a short paragraph, is a description of what the Telecommunications Information Council is and why it is such a radical departure from what has existed within state government up to now. What follows in this section is no more than elaboration . . . a description of how we got to where we are today, and where we can hope to get if we take advantage of the opportunity that the Council provides.

It has been observed that, just as telecommunication systems evolve, so does their management. As telecommunication systems become more complex and more important in the affairs of the organization, responsibility for them slowly moves higher in the chain of command. Thus we find in some private corporations today that the highest ranking information manager carries the title of vice president.

The evolution in data processing management was described as a six-stage process in an article written by a Harvard business professor that has become something of a classic in the eight years since its publication. Alaska now appears to be at Stage III in this process (See Figure I). The Telecommunications Information Council has the potential of moving state government to Stage IV and beyond.

Today the state has the control mechanisms in place. Data processing purchases must be approved by the Department of Administration, which is therefore in a position to make sure that there is no duplication and that new systems are compatible with other parts of the state's system. It is also in a position to realize economies by making bulk purchases and to make users accountable through a chargeback system. All this is seen within the Harvard

Alaska in 1987

	Stage I Initiation	Stage II Contagion	Stage III Control	Stage IV Integration	Stage V Data administration	Stage VI Maturity
Growth processes						
Applications portfolio:	Functional cost reduction applications	Proliferation	Upgrade documentation and restructure existing applications	Retrofit existing applications using database technology	Organization integration of applications	Application integration 'mirroring' information flows
DP organization:	Specialization for technological learning	User-oriented programmers	Middle management	Establish computer utility and user account teams	Data administration	Data resource management
DP planning and control:	Lax	More lax	Formalized planning and control	Tailored planning and control systems	Shared data and common systems	Data resource strategic planning
User awareness:	"Hands off"	Superficially enthusiastic	Arbitrarily held accountable	Accountability learning	Effectively accountable	Acceptance of joint user and data processing accountability

Figure I: Information Processing in Alaska

based on "Exhibit I, Six Stages of data processing growth," in
"Managing the Crises in Data Processing Management," Richard
L. Nolan, Harvard Business Review, March-April 1979.

professor's model as natural reaction to the previous stage: Contagion. In that stage there was little control as user-oriented programmers worked with users to create systems. Better state control of equipment purchases has addressed the problems that emerged then. But control should not be the goal. Because, with control, new problems arrive.

Control, in the companies on which the Harvard professor based his model, led to user frustration and alienation. In Alaska, evidence of this happening can be seen in such instances as that of the four state workers in an Anchorage office who carry their own Macintoshes to work each day because they cannot get the state to buy Macintoshes for them. The state has bought them a printer but it is able to print only the textual material they produce. Most of their work, however, is graphics modelling. These workers use computers to help them visualize problems that are so complex some have led to years of litigation. They use their own computers to do this because state-provided computers lack the capability.

Another case: a state worker in one department wanted to look at the database containing Attorney General's opinions. He was unable to do so because the password for that database had been changed. Attorney General's opinions are not restricted information, nevertheless, in the interests of database security, they had been treated as such.

The task of the state as these problems emerge is to return ultimate control to the users without sacrificing the gains that imposition of controls brought to the system.

What has happened in the state -- and what happened in those companies -- is that higher management has delegated to a lower level the responsibility for information technology management. The reasons for that are understandable enough. Information technology is complex, and it's constantly changing. Top level managers tend not to understand it, not to have the time to figure it out. So they delegate responsibility for it.

Those given the job of managing the technology are told to make sure that the top level managers' fears about it are not realized. What are these fears?

We don't want to pay too much for the technology. We don't want to be taken advantage of.

We want it to work. When everything is plugged together, we should get the outcome we paid for.

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Managers need not understand the details of fiber optic technology. They don't have to know about the spacing of repeaters. It is not necessary to know what ROM, PROM, EPROM, etc. mean, nor how to program in Cobol for them to be good managers of technology. They should be aware, however, of the types of things that can be done with technology. They should know that information can be passed between quite different computer systems. They should know what an expert system is. They should know how simulations can help them analyze management problems. They should know, in other words, the kinds of things information technology makes possible. With this information, they are in a position to work productively with technology experts to reach their business objectives.

In other words, managers should take back for themselves the leadership in managing. It is not appropriate for them to have lower level managers telling them what they can and cannot do. This is the first of the challenges facing the Telecommunications Information Council.

The Second Step: Exploring the Possibilities

This section is intended to show what the Council could accomplish by developing an overall information systems plan. It reports the experience of other states and of private industry and the conclusions of some telecommunication experts. It also draws on the intent language supplied by the House Finance Committee and the House Special Committee on Telecommunications. This section is intended to show what telecommunication can do for Alaska if we create the opportunities.

Sec. 44.19.504. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The council shall

(1) establish guidelines and prepare a state short-range and long-range information systems plan to meet state needs;

It would appear that two of the first tasks the Council will face are:

1. Deciding what it wants a state information system to do.
2. Assessing the government's information resources.
What information is collected by state government? Where is it located? How can it be accessed? How is it used?

The law requires members of the Telecommunications Information Council to look at telecommunication in a visionary way. The Council is mandated to look at the whole system. And it is told to look at it from the perspective of needs. The following paragraphs of the law make clear that the needs to be considered are those of both state agencies and the public. The Legislature expects the Council to look at telecommunication among agencies as well as within agencies. This is implicit in paragraph 1 above and is made explicit in the bill's intent language.

The members of the Council, by virtue of their positions as the chief administrators of major agencies, are better qualified than anyone else within government to look at telecommunication in this way. As they discuss how telecommunication can be made to serve them, they will quite naturally be discussing how telecommunication can best serve state government. This is one reason why commissioners, rather than deputies, were specified as the members of this Council.

It is not the intent of this section to impose a vision on the Council. It can perhaps be helpful by providing for the Council a glimpse at the visions of others.

What others have done

The information systems that have been developed in recent years are enabling people to do things that have never been done before. Information specialists in private industry have been talking for several years now about their decision support systems, management information systems, and information resource management. Job titles that began to appear as the concept of information management caught hold include database administrator, database librarian, chief information officer (CIO), and knowledge engineer. It is instructive, therefore, to see how these systems have been used.

Here are some examples:

New Hampshire Governor John H. Sununu introduced an integrated, computerized financial system for his state, which he monitors from his own personal computer. Now "he doesn't have to wait 15 to 20 days for a written financial report," an aide says.

The director of North Carolina's Agency for Public Telecommunications produced and appeared on a televised conference with officials and representatives of the public in 30 other states.

A Wisconsin legislator uses his computer as a bulletin board for posting state documents and receiving constituent messages. He also electronically mails press releases.

The Florida Department of Revenue matches its sales tax file with the file of new car registrations from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to identify individuals who have failed to pay sales tax.

Pennsylvania has completed a test of a program that replaces food stamps with point-of-sale terminals and magnetic strip cards.

Du Pont has been experimenting with computers that combine words, sound and graphics in a single document. "Write a memo to the boss, add a little noise to keep him awake and perhaps an animated graph showing the rising profits of your division."

In Texas, 25 subscribers to a new service that enables users to chat among themselves through their computers wrote a Gothic novel on-line.

France's two largest credit-card organizations have introduced a payment card that combines microchip and magnetic stripe technologies. Their "Smart Stripe Card" contains an embedded chip which gives it intelligence and memory. A Paris university is using the smart card as a portable school record.

In federal government, income modelling, statistical analysis, econometric forecasting and income tax analysis programs are being used to formulate policy alternatives.

Alaskans have long been leaders in innovative uses of telecommunications technologies. For example:

The House Special Committee on Telecommunications held a three-month-long electronic mail discussion of Alaskan telecommunications issues in the fall of 1986. That discussion, involving about 50 people across the state, helped establish the agenda that the committee has since followed.

The public affairs office of the University of Alaska Anchorage routinely sends electronic press releases to the computers of the Anchorage newspapers.

The Alaska Public Radio Network uses the University of Alaska Computer Network to circulate information among member stations.

The Department of Education recently began using the University's computer network for electronic mail.

There are a number of electronic bulletin board services in Alaska, including one just started at the Anchorage Daily News.

Users of the Daily News Service can submit story ideas and leave notes for the managing editor.

Long-distance computer communication was helpful in the production of this report.

All of these are nontraditional uses of computers and telecommunications. And all of these hold the promise of improving government service. Many of them hold the additional promise of reducing the costs of government.

What others have said

These examples, however, are no more than pieces of a larger picture. That picture is provided by the vision of information policymakers, and it is captured in the words of a California business professor writing about the Information Age:

"The new Information Society is expected to offer to millions a whole new dimension in access to stored information and problem solving software. The key word is *access*: it is expected that many millions of people will have greatly increased access to a wide array of information services inexpensively, rapidly, and in environments of their own choosing."

This description fits equally well the governor of New Hampshire pulling information out of databases, the Wisconsin legislator dispatching electronic press releases to newspapers, and the Du Pont worker watching and hearing a computer memo.

Another futurist talks about the management problems posed by information, and what he says is reminiscent of what Commissioner Andrews said:

"The further a society moves toward making its living from the manipulation of information, the more its citizens will be caught up in a continual struggle to reduce the information overload on their desks and in their lives in order to reduce the uncertainty about what to do. In the information society, we trade glut for scarcity, flood for drought."

At every level of management, the problem is one of extracting the relevant information for decision making from a larger base of material. This is not an insurmountable problem. However, when it is recognized as a general problem it can also be recognized that a management strategy is necessary for dealing with it.

Policy issues for the Telecommunications Information Council at this level are likely to include how to provide support of database management systems. But, to make it easier for managers to obtain the information they need, it will be necessary to provide access to even larger volumes of information than is the case today. Top level managers within departments need to be able to pull out information from different divisions. Within the governor's office, managers need to be able to pull out information from different agencies. Thus networking and database management become additional policy issues.

A 1981 report by the technical director of the University of Alaska Computer Network advised:

"There is no 'ultimate' computer which can do all things for all users. In an academic community the trend is toward multiple machines, each selected and tuned to be the best possible to perform its prescribed tasks."

And:

"Eventually the UACN will be a network in a network of networks."

In other words, we are unlikely to be able to find a single, technically elegant solution to information problems. To the contrary, computer companies such as DEC and Tandem are devoting considerable energy to creation and support of networks that permit communication between quite dissimilar computer systems. Similarly, in a Delphi survey reported in **Talking to Each Other: Talking to Machines** three Alaskan telecommunications experts said that if they were to operate a telecommunications business in the year 2001, their business activity would be to connect dissimilar communications systems.

In the long run, networking may well be a better solution to information systems problems than would continued imposition of the equipment standards in place today. This, too, is an issue meriting examination by the Council at this broadest policy level.

The Third Step: Improving Communication Within Agencies

Improving communication within state agencies might seem to be the easiest task facing the Telecommunications Information Council. It is not, however, the first task set out within the law. That is because it is not logically the first task the Council should face. This task is secondary to that of developing an overall information plan for the state. Both the wording of paragraph 2 and House Finance Committee intent language make this clear.

(2) in accordance with the state information systems plan, establish guidelines and direct state agencies to prepare agency information systems plans;

The Finance Committee intent language cautions the Council against involvement in intra-agency information systems activities except to the extent necessary to ensure that they conform to "broad, statewide information systems policy guidelines."

Within-agency information activities are of concern to the Council because they include development and management of databases that could be shared by users in other agencies and in the private sector. One of the most valuable contributions made by this year's **Information Resource Management Users' Guide**, produced by the Department of Administration, is its section on databases in which it puts forward content standards and talks about the importance of a data dictionary. "The purpose of database administration," the report says, "is to provide for the State the capability to organize its data so that it is available when needed, sharable, accurate and secure." Thus useful standards have already been put forward for the management of computer-stored information within agencies. If the standards are followed, the Council's task of encouraging the flow of information among agencies is greatly eased.

A problem that is much less easily addressed is the duplication of information in different databases within a department. It is less efficient to enter information in two databases than one. But it happens. Ideally, departments should enter information once. It

should then be extracted as necessary for use in other databases within the department. This problem is of concern to the Council because redundancy within databases complicates the finding of information by users outside the department as well as those within it. Also, it is more costly to update databases when new information must be entered more than once.

A second problem is the maintenance of databases that are not used. Departments -- in providing inventories of the information they hold -- could also be asked to indicate who the users of this information are. In this way databases that are not serving any useful purpose could be identified and eliminated.

These are examples of information systems issues within agencies that should be policy concerns at a higher level. Policy oversight can help assure the quality of information held within state agencies, while ensuring that the costs of acquiring and maintaining the information are not disproportionately high.

The Fourth Step: Providing Access for the Public

The third task identified for the Telecommunications Information Council is to make information held by the state available to the public. This task is far more difficult than improving information flows within departments, or between them. Data security, always a concern with computer systems, becomes a glaring issue when talk turns to the possibility of providing the public with access to state databases. It is a valid concern, but it is well to remember at this point that it has been successfully dealt with by universities across the country. It is important, too, to keep in mind that access to government information has always been considered to be a basic right of the American people.

The law forming the Council states:

(3) in accordance with statutes governing the availability and confidentiality of information, establish guidelines for the accessing of information by the public;

Several states have recognized in recent years that the development of computerized information systems has made it more difficult for the public to gain access to public records. Information that once existed on paper now resides in computer memory. Some of this information has economic value, some of it is of interest to lawyers, to Realtors, to reporters.

James Madison wrote in a discussion of the First Amendment that "the right of freely examining public characters and measures, and of free communication thereon, is the only effectual guardian of every other right." Much more recently, the Federal Freedom of Information Act was passed in recognition that access to government information is one of the checks and balances that makes our government work. A Florida court has held that public records include "all information in a computer." There are, therefore, Constitutionally-based arguments for providing public access to computerized information held by state government.

State governments have provided access to computer-based information in a variety of ways. The Council's task, in responding to

Paragraph 3, is to determine which of these ways is most appropriate for Alaska. Alaska has already taken the first steps to make computer-based information available to its citizens. Alaskans now can gain access to legislative databases by going to the Legislative Information Offices where terminals are located. In addition, several public access terminals to these databases are available in Juneau.

The public could be allowed to examine printouts, copies of printouts could be provided -- which is commonly how Alaska legislators receive information from the Executive Branch -- , public terminals could be provided that would give access to files in databases, databases could be copied onto magnetic tape provided by the information seeker, state computer networks could be made accessible via telephone by private individuals with micro-computers.

Each of these alternatives carries its own costs and risks. The time (and therefore the cost) required to prepare information for public consumption varies considerably for the different alternatives. Security becomes a consideration if public access is provided to state databases. But each of these alternatives has been found practical in various situations by other government bodies. What follows is a description of what some of them have done:

Montgomery County, Pa., has a free, remote access system that provides a variety of court information including attorney schedules, civil court schedules, and permits searches for information about judgments, deeds, and tax claims.

Two Georgia counties have contracted with a private company to supply public record information on-line to heavy users. The counties provide computer tapes to the private company.

New York and South Carolina are investigating videotex systems for responding to requests from the public for state information.

Ohio's Department of Development has created an information system that provides seven databases including patent information, list of Ohio companies doing technological research and development, list of academic researchers, etc. Its objective is to promote technological innovation by helping entrepreneurs and academic researchers to find each other.

Nebraska's Telecommunications and Information Center is creating a state business information network.

Few states have greater opportunities than Alaska in meeting the special challenge of providing public access to information. The importance of this access cannot be overstated. Access in the new Information Age may well spell the difference between prosperity and poverty for many.

Because communication has never been easy in this state, Alaska's citizens are used to solving information problems in creative ways -- as in the case of the Barrow judge who uses radio broadcasts to reach prospective jurors and in the use throughout the state of rural radio broadcasts for message services.

The Telecommunications Information Council must provide the leadership and point the direction in this enterprise. Is a single way of handling information requests the best solution? Should there be a range of solutions suited to different types of information requests? Should there be one solution for the shorter term, another for the long term? What are the costs/benefits of the various alternatives? Is it possible to find an elegant solution that no one has thought of before?

The examples drawn from other states do suggest one long-term solution that might be considered by the Council together with other alternatives:

Alaska's experience with broadcast telecommunications suggests one approach to this problem. The state has worked with public and private entities to build broadcast telecommunications systems; by doing so it has minimized its own costs. It could take this approach, too, in helping to develop a public access information system. It could invite private enterprises to join in building a statewide, public/private information system. There is some interest within the University community and the private sector in joining in such a project. France, which has successfully developed a nationwide information system, provides a model for such a system in Alaska.

Whether this idea seems attractive or not, it illustrates the type of thinking that will be needed to provide a lasting solution to the problem of public access.