



08 - 0357

Robbie LaFleur
Director
Legislative Reference Library
645 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1050

Dear Ms. LaFleur,

This letter is in response to your request for copies of an inventory of technology owned or leased by state agencies, as required in statute.

Unfortunately, a reasonably comprehensive and credible report cannot be produced at this time. There is no central database of purchases of technology and, under current accounting practices, many technological devices are no longer listed on the state's central property inventory systems because, as commoditized personal computers have replaced typewriters, calculators and dedicated terminals, their costs have decreased and they are now standard equipment for most offices.

In the past, the Department of Administration used various combinations of agency survey data, procurement data and network scans to attempt to satisfy the requirement. The expense of collecting and maintaining such information is disproportionate to the usefulness of the data. As a result, the accuracy and completeness of the information was so poor that it had no real value and was not used either by the legislature or by our offices to measure effective IT investment. Data collection efforts were discontinued when the responsible staff position was eliminated for budgetary reasons in FY 2005.

The report issued in 2005 was dependent on a one-time survey of agency assets done as part of the Drive to Excellence Transformation Roadmap.

We have recommended in the past and will continue to recommend that this requirement be removed from statute. In its place, a far more valuable inventory of major applications and systems was presented to the legislature in January 2007 as one component of our Information Technology portfolio report. We will continue to make this information available.

Sincerely yours,

Gopal Khanna
Chief Information Officer, State of Minnesota

State of Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology
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January 7, 2008

INTEROFFICE

To: (M) Jim Schwartz
Minnesota. Dept. of Administration
Office of the Commissioner
2nd Floor
Administration Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

From: Robbie LaFleur, Director

According to our records, the following legislation mandated your agency to produce a report:

Cite: 2001 Minn. Laws 1st Spl. Sess. Chap. 10 Art. 2 Sec. 44 (Minn. Stat. 16E.035)
Topic: Inventory of technology owned or leased by state agencies
Due date: July 01, 2007 Date of last publication: 2005

Notes: A report cannot be produced at this time. Please see attached letter.

Return this form, with six copies of the report if completed, to:
Legislative Reference Library
Attn: Acquisitions Dept.
645 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1050

When the report is completed, you are required by statute to send six copies to the Legislative Reference Library (MS 3.195; MS 3.302). If it would be difficult to meet this requirement, please contact us. In addition to the six copies, please inform us if there is an Internet version of this report.

URL: _____

If an URL is not currently available, are there plans to post to the web at a later date?
Yes ___ No ___ If Yes, approximate date? _____

Is an alternative electronic format (Word, Wordperfect, etc.) available? Yes ___ No ___
Documents as attachments may be sent to reports@lrl.leg.mn

Please help us track the status of this report.

- Report enclosed (6 copies) []
Report expected to be done by this date _____
Report has been sent. The title is _____
No information at this office. Contact _____

Thank you for your help. If you have questions, please contact Jess Hopeman (651-296-0586), jhopeman@lrl.leg.mn.