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March 6, 2014

Senator Tom Saxhaug Senate District 3 226 State Capitol 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

## Dear Senator Saxhaug:

Minnesota Laws 2011, First Special Session, chapter 10, article 4 requires the State's Chief Information Officer to report on the feasibility and desirability of service-level agreements between MN.IT Services and the following state entities:

- State Lottery
- Statewide Radio Board
- Minnesota State Retirement System
- Public Employees Retirement System
- Teacher Retirement Association
- State Board of Investment
- Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board
- Minnesota House
- Minnesota Senate

Minnesota Statutes 16E paragraph (d) makes clear that the scope of the IT consolidation law is agencies within the executive branch of state government. The entities listed above are specifically excluded from consideration as state agencies for the purposes of M.S. 16e, which makes the chief information officer (the Commissioner of MN.IT) responsible for providing or entering into managed services contracts with agencies for the provision, improvement, and development of information technology systems and services.

The feasibility study mandated by the 2011 consolidation law was thus understood as an opportunity for MN.IT and these agencies to explore the feasibility and desirability of entering into voluntary service-level agreements for the provision of technology systems and services. MN.IT has determined with two exceptions that it is both feasible and desirable to enter into service level agreements encompassing the following information technology services to the extent that they are being provided to each entity above:

- Business Process Management
- Contracted Telecommunications Services
- Microsoft Enterprise Agreements
- Internet Protocol Services
- Wide Area Network Services
- Workplace Services (Microsoft Office, SharePoint)
- Hosting Services
- Data Management

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The services consumed by individual entities are outlined in Appendix1 – SLA Study Service Inventory. The Office of MN.IT Services plans to enter into service level agreements for the services outlined in Appendix 1 by July 1, 2014. MN.IT Services does not plan to enter into a service level agreement with the Minnesota Senate because of concerns that have been raised around potential infringement on the distribution of government powers established in Article III of the Minnesota Constitution. Lastly, MN.IT Services requests an additional year be provided in order to further study and understand the new duties and responsibilities of the Statewide Radio Board in its transition to a Statewide Emergency Communication Board, in light of MN.IT's role as the consolidated information technology service provider for the Departments of Public Safety and Transportation and its unique responsibilities related to state information and network infrastructure.

Please let me know if you have any concerns or questions, or if you would like to discuss this issue in more detail.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Parnell

State Chief Information Officer

658 Cedar Street, Saint Paul MN 55155 mn.gov/mnit

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