

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVE
BILL WILLIAMS
Co-Chair
(907) 465-3424
Fax: (907) 465-3793

INTERIM ADDRESS
50 Front Street, Suite 203
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
(907) 247-4627
Fax (907) 225-7157



REPRESENTATIVE
ELDON MULDER
Co-Chair
(907) 465-2647
Fax: (907) 465-3518

INTERIM ADDRESS
714 W. 4th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 269-0265
Fax: (907) 269-0264

State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

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CONTACT: Rep. Eldon Mulder (907) 465-2647
Rep. Bill Williams (907) 465-3424

Subcommittee to Assess Information Technology Panel Seeks Improved Benefits from State Computer Investments

(JUNEAU) – Citing the need for state lawmakers to better document the public benefits from state spending on computers, House Finance Committee Co-Chairman Rep. Eldon Mulder (R-Anchorage) today announced formation of a special Information Technology Subcommittee.

“One of the Legislature’s primary responsibilities is to make sure money spent on technology produces cost-effective results that help state government serve Alaskans effectively,” said Mulder. “By seeking ways to improve our technology planning, purchasing and utilization, this subcommittee will help us better meet our responsibility to maximize our investment of scarce state resources.”

The five-member subcommittee will review the state’s technology investments, develop a better understanding of how state departments are spending their technology resources and report back to the full Finance Committee during the next legislative session, he said.

Mulder will serve as chair of the subcommittee, which will also include Rep. Bill Williams (R-Ketchikan), Rep. John Harris (R-Valdez), Rep. Lisa Murkowski (R-Anchorage) and Rep. Gretchen Guess (D-Anchorage).

Members of the public are welcome to attend the subcommittee’s first meeting, scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m. at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 716 W. Fourth Ave.

“During the past budget process, it became clear that state agencies need a comprehensive, enterprise-wide information technology plan to better serve their own internal needs as well as those of their public constituencies,” Mulder said. “While many agencies use current technology, others have problems with outdated and inefficient systems. We believe there’s room for improvements that could help such agencies better fulfill their missions to serve Alaskans.”

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