

Electronic Signatures Project**FY2002 Request: \$100,000****Reference No: 33936****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Information Systems**Category:** General Government**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Dan Spencer**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-5655**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Funding will be used to purchase hardware, software, and provide staff to evaluate and pilot electronic signature technology.

Funding:	<u>FY2002</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$100,000						\$100,000
Total:	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This project has received no prior year funding.

Project Description/Justification:**Project Overview**

The purpose of this project is to evaluate and pilot electronic signature technology. Funding will be used to test this electronic signature technology to ensure that it meets the needs of Alaska state government.

Recently, federal and state laws have been passed recognizing electronic signatures as the legal equivalent of a hand-written signature. Many state business processes and corresponding documents today require signatures. Many of these processes are now on-line, on the internet, and can be electronically processed through the internet or email. However, the page(s) containing the signature(s) must be faxed or mailed. This project will pilot the technology that will allow for these signature pages to be submitted electronically, along the complete document. The current two-step process has created room for fraud, and created more work, more confusion, and more overhead on both the public and state agency staff. It has also lowered the level of integrity and security involved in submitting documents.

Use of electronic signature technology will speed up state business transactions. It will allow the complete, electronic submission of documents, contracts and other business transactions. The general public must now come in to state offices or use the postal service to complete their business with state government; this technology will expand the public's options in their interaction with state government.

Electronic signature technology will also introduce a layer of security to transactions that does not exist today. It can be used by someone to authenticate the identity of the sender of a message or the signer of a document. It can also be used to ensure that the original content of the message or document that has been sent is unchanged.

This electronic signature pilot project will determine whether electronic signature technology is reliable, beneficial, and appropriate for state business, which may lead to other public agencies adapting the technology for some of their business processes as appropriate. They will benefit from the 'lessons learned' and 'best practices' this project will

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develop, and will be able to implement this type of technology more quickly, more effectively, with fewer costs associated with training staff.

In order to complete the project, the following is required:

Hardware costs- Server - \$20,000

Software costs - (client and certification authority software) - \$50,000

Project management/staff costs - \$30,000