



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
John Hoeven  
*Governor*

April 28, 2003

The Honorable Janet Wentz  
House Chambers  
Speaker of the House  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: HOUSE BILL 1022, Information Technology Department (ITD) Funding Bill

Dear Speaker Wentz,

North Dakota has developed one of the finest statewide high-speed data networks in the country. It is a cost effective public sector, private sector partnership that supports education and government, and creates opportunity for business.

At the heart of the system is ITD, the state's information technology department. This funding legislation for ITD creates a bureaucratic maze that will cost taxpayers more and will certainly slow down technology-based services throughout state government. It transfers funds back and forth between ITD and almost every other agency in state government, which will not work and which will leave ITD underfunded.

I can support the 5 percent reduction in each agency's technology budget, but this legislation for ITD will increase costs, and impede services to the people of North Dakota. I therefore veto it.

Sincerely,

/S/

John Hoeven  
Governor

cc: Senate Majority Leader Bob Stenehjem  
House Majority Leader Rick Berg  
Senate Minority Leader David P. O'Connell  
House Minority Leader Merle Boucher