STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE

ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE COURTS

DIVISION OF

JUDICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

JUDICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM PERMANENT FUNDING PLAN

AUGUST, 1980

The Judicial Information System Permanent Funding Plan has been reviewed and approved by the Judicial Information System Funding Study Committee.

Justice Robert F. Brachtenbach
Chairman

Court of Appeals	Honorable Ray E. Munson
Superior Court Judges' Association	Honorable Richard P. Guy Honorable Walter A. Stauffacher
Magistrates' Association	Honorable Thomas E. Kelly Honorable George T. Mattson
Legislature	Senator John D. Jones Senator Phil Talmadge Representative Gary A. Nelson Representative Alan Thompson
Superior Court Clerks' Association	Kay D. Anderson
District Court Administrators' Association	Bea Boone
Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators	Robert K. Axlund
Association of Washington Cities	Mayor M. J. Hrdlicka Mayor Vivian Roewe Mayor Stan Kersey
Washington Association of Counties	Frenchy O'Donnell
Washington Association of County Officials	Laura Brader
Washington State Bar Association	Michael J. Hemovich
Washington State Association of Prosecuting Attorneys	Curtis Janhunen
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SUMMARY

This report on user fee funding for the Judicial Information Systems (JIS) has been prepared in response to the legislative mandate contained in the Administrator for the Courts appropriation language of the 1979 regular session. It states:

> "The Administrator for the Courts, together with the county and city users of the Judicial Information System shall prepare a report delineating a feasible plan to convert funding of the Judicial Information System to a user fee schedule."

It is the conclusion of the committee established to explore the feasibility of user fee funding for the Judicial Information System that a litigant user fee funding process is indeed both feasible and the best practical alternative.

The committee's membership represented the various associations of county, city and judicial officials, as well as other local officials, legislators, and the Washington State Bar Association. Several meetings were held by the committee, during which it explored and evaluated the history of JIS and its funding, legislative intent regarding JIS, functional and service aspects and benefits of JIS, and alternative funding methodologies. The committee's analysis shows that the most cost effective approach to court information processing is a single, integrated, uniform and comprehensive system, such as JIS.

The committee therefore recommends that the Legislature enact the accompanying proposed legislation (Appendix A) as soon as possible in the biennial session to afford adequate time for the litigant user fee schedule to be implemented. This fee will enable the court system to measurably improve its response to its clients by

improved clerical operations and management decisions. The court, as a byproduct of these improvements, will be able to provide the Legislature and the public improved statistical and management information about its operation.

I. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to help the reader understand and accept the value and rationale of the Judicial Information System (JIS) operation and funding process. Further, the report is intended to provide the reader with the information and background necessary to understand the role and value of a state-wide judicial information system.

The judicial process is impacted by the increasing complexity of modern society perhaps more than most facets of life, primarily because of the courts' role as the vehicle for resolving civil and alleged criminal grievances. The number and complexity of these grievances are both on the upswing. Because the courts have not been as vocal in the past as they perhaps should have been, little is generally known of these problems and the impact of judicial information flow processes on the solutions.

The scope of this report is limited to the processing of judicial or court-related information within and among the state's courts, as well as between the courts and other justice agencies. Of particular interest are those court information handling processes that are highly structured, mandated by law, and/or that frequently lend themselves to automated support. It is important to note that the JIS concept includes a main computer facility, telephone lines to court sites, computer terminals, and staff to develop, operate, and maintain applications, as well as train court personnel.

II. History

In 1973, the Supreme Court, in recognition of the need for a Judicial Information System (JIS), established a committee known as the Superior Courts Management Information System (SCOMIS) Committee for the purpose of studying the use of automation with the judicial branch of government. With the hiring of staff, the Committee commenced its work early in 1974.

After considerable study, a grant was obtained from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), to begin the programming development of JIS. This grant effort commenced in April of 1976. The Supreme Court, in support of the JIS effort, promulgated Supreme Court rules (JIS Committee rules) to establish the controlling policy environment. The new JIS Committee held its first meeting in the fall of 1976, and, as one of its first acts, established its predecessor committee (SCOMIS) as the ad hoc policy committee for the superior courts system development effort.

In October, 1976, a discretionary grant was obtained through a national LEAA project for the development of a Judicial Information System module for the appellate courts (Court of Appeals and Supreme Court). An ad hoc committee--the ACORDS Committee--was established, and staff was hired and commenced work on this project in January, 1977.

Two additional JIS projects were begun in the first half of 1977; these were a juvenile courts system (JUVIS) and a courts of limited jurisdiction system (DISCIS). Policy ad hoc committees were established for each in July, 1977. Since then, funds have been obtained through five grants from the Traffic Safety Commission, for development and coordination of an interim IBM 3741-based system for the courts of limited jurisdiction and the development of a

mini-computer based replacement system. JUVIS activities have been funded by inclusion in the JIS grant, and two subsequent juvenile grants, beginning in April, 1978.

The Legislature has approved a budget for the Administrator for the Courts including funding for the JIS effort for the 1977-79 and 1979-81 bienniums.

Other funding sources have included:

-- An LEAA "Court Delay" grant to expedite the implementation of King County Superior Court.

-- Funds as part of an LEAA grant to Pierce County to expedite Pierce County's use of the JUVIS system.

As of the submission of this plan, the SCOMIS system is operational in Yakima, Snohomish, King, Kitsap, Clark, Thurston, Benton, and Whatcom County Superior Courts and processes approximately sixty percent (60%) of the state-wide superior court filings.

The ACORDS system is operational in all three divisions of the Court of Appeals and in the Supreme Court, processing one hundred percent (100%) of the appellate filings.

The JUVIS system is operational in Pierce, Clark, Yakima, Benton-Franklin, Spokane, and Snohomish County sites (40%). The implementation of a state-wide (100%) batch system began on January 1, 1980.

The DISCIS system is being pilot tested in Thurston, Lewis, and King County District Courts (4%). An interim system using IBM 3741 devices is operational in 24 other district courts and accommodates about 50% of the state-wide filings.

III. Benefits

Whether or not the individual state courts should be automated is no longer a question. With few exceptions, every medium to large-scale court in the state has investigated or planned to implement computerization to help cope with growing caseloads. The selections have ranged from limited functions available on prepackaged, vendor-supplied mini-computer systems, to full-function court information systems developed by local county or city data processing staffs. The former typically have rigid structures incapable of being modified to meet the unique needs of Washington's courts. The latter have approached JIS goals in meeting local needs, but failed in providing any state-wide benefits. All have been expensive for the amount of services provided. In creating the JIS court rules, the Supreme Court has been successful in preventing the implementation of many dissimilar, non-standard systems which would be of great total cost to the judiciary, and local and state government.

The JIS subsystems, by contrast, have had the following attributes:

1) One of the main reasons for the present large caseload backlogs in the court system is the reliance on manual processing and the consequent lack of management information. After 2½ years of operation under JIS, Snohomish County Superior Court studies have shown a $10 savings in processing per case, made possible by features such as a three-fold reduction in time to record documents and other docketing events in a case. The State of Utah, in developing a juvenile court information system which has been modified for installation as this state's court system, was able to handle a doubling of juvenile referrals over 5 years

without an increase in staff. Well thought-out information systems are powerful tools toward increasing productivity. JIS has demonstrated, over the last 3 years, its increasing ability to prove that point.

2) As a byproduct of better justice, JIS will aid the courts in producing added millions of dollars of revenue. The courts are not considered a source of revenue. However, if justice is to prevail, when fines are imposed, they should be paid. At present, millions of dollars of fines each year are not paid by the guilty. A major reason for the lack of payment is the inability of most courts to follow up on failures to appear, time payment defaulters, or others who would escape financial penalties. In the pilot site, Thurston County District Court, within 3 months of installing the JIS system, the court was collecting 15% more money on fewer cases than the previous year. The extra $7,000 of revenue per month was more than double the cost of the system. The indirect benefit from this process was the impression that justice is sure and not random.

3) A benefit previously not possible has been the growth in the availability of reliable, comparable data on the total state court caseloads. The data becomes the management information resource essential for meaningful analysis of court delays and impact of legislation on the judicial process.

4) The Judicial Information System, being a comprehensive, sophisticated, responsive system, is highly leveraged: i.e., it has a high initial development cost and initial cost per client, but as each client and function is added at a relatively low cost, the average cost per client drops significantly. The development costs have been borne by the LEAA, under a pilot project,

and by the Legislature. With those funds, JIS has been able to develop a system to meet the needs of all state courts. The benefits of those development funds are now available to the future users of JIS.

5) Judicial information follows the economy of scale principal: i.e., one large production unit can produce goods and services at a lower cost per unit than several smaller units. With over 340 jurisdictions, 356 judges, and over one million cases per year, across the four major levels of justice, some organized information system is necessary. One state level JIS has a greater cost benefit than 100 separate information systems.

6) Additional benefits attributable to JIS include: improved case information quality which is due to built-in guidelines and checks in the system; standardization is obtainable as each new court is added to the list of courts using the single common computer system; availability of information in needed locations is enhanced to where it is limited only by the number of computer terminals present in the court site; reduction of redundant clerical operations is accomplished due to the sharing of computer data across case processing functions; timely responses to inquiries are possible due to the incorporation of a modern, technological tool in the court process.

IV. 1979 Legislative Direction

During the 1979 session, the Legislature gave specific direction to future JIS funding when they provided the following directive:

> "The Administrator for the Courts together with the county and city users of the judicial information system shall prepare a report delineating a feasible plan to convert funding of the Judicial Information System to a user fee schedule. Such report shall be presented to the Senate Ways and Means Committee and the House Appropriations Committee by January 1, 1981," Section 11, 1979-1981 Biennial Budget Legislation.

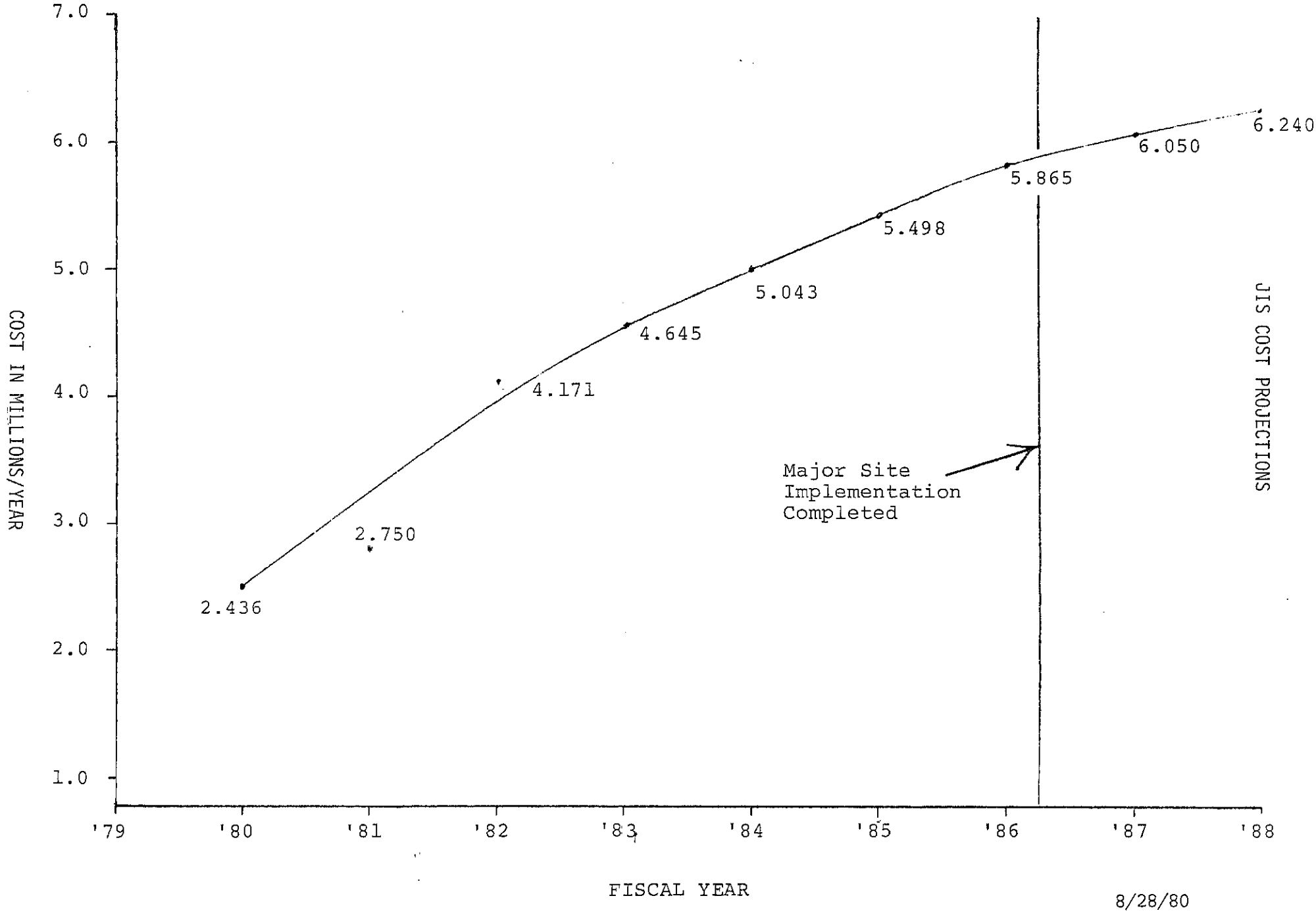
In the same section, the Legislature appropriated over $5 million for the biennial development and operation of a comprehensive judicial information system encompassing the state's courts.

In response to the directive of the Legislature, the Judicial Information System Committee, the guiding committee of judicial representatives supporting the development of JIS, named a committee to represent key interests in the judiciary, state and local government, and other concerned organizations. The JIS Funding Study Committee held its first meeting early in 1980 to begin exploring funding alternatives. This report, with its recommendation, is the product of that committee.

V. Revenue Requirements

JIS long-range plans call for the implementation of services in all but the smallest district and municipal courts by January 1, 1986. Cost projections have been prepared through fiscal year 1988 in support of these plans. These projections are depicted in the attached graph. Current court site implementation schedules follow.

Included in the cost projections are the costs of the computer equipment, telecommunications lines to the court sites, all terminal equipment at those sites, computer supplies, and the central JIS support staff which provides system development, maintenance of services, training, consulting and coordination for all courts using JIS.


7.0
6.0
5.0
4.0
3.0
2.0
1.0
COST IN MILLIONS/YEAR
2.436
2.750
4.171
4.645
5.043
5.498
5.865
6.050
6.240
Major Site
Implementation
Completed
JIS COST PROJECTIONS
'79
'80
'81
'82
'83
'84
'85
'86
'87
'88
FISCAL YEAR

8/28/80

PROPOSED LONG-RANGE

SCOMIS SITE IMPLEMENTATION ORDER

ORDER	COURT SITE	TENTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE	1978 CASELOAD TOTAL FILINGS	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE
1	YAKIMA COUNTY SUPERIOR	CURRENT	6,175	4.6
2	SNOHOMISH	CURRENT	9,863	11.8
3	KITSAP	CURRENT	4,229	14.9
4	THURSTON	CURRENT	4,080	18.0
5	CLARK	CURRENT	5,948	22.3
6	BENTON	CURRENT	2,973	24.5
7	KING	CURRENT	44,328	57.2
8	WHATCOM	CURRENT	3,072	59.5
9	GRAYS HARBOR	DEC, 1980	2,367	61.2
10	PIERCE	MAY, 1981	16,018	73.0
11	FRANKLIN	JULY, 1981	1,549	74.1
12	WALLA WALLA	OCT, 1981	1,645	75.4
13	GRANT	JAN, 1982	1,725	76.6
14	SKAGIT	APR, 1982	2,127	78.2
15	CHELAN	JULY, 1982	1,544	79.3
16	PEND OREILLE	OCT, 1982	263	
17	STEVENS	OCT, 1982	760	80.3
18	LINCOLN	OCT, 1982	283	
19	MASON	JAN, 1983	873	80.9
20	SPOKANE	APR, 1983	11,623	89.5

ORDER	COURT SITE	TENTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE	1978 CASELOAD TOTAL FILINGS	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE
21	ASOTIN	JULY, 1983	645	
22	COLUMBIA	JULY, 1983	137	90.3
23	GARFIELD	JULY, 1983	50	
24	COWLITZ	OCT, 1983	2,786	92.2
25	LEWIS	JAN, 1984	1,836	93.6
26	CLALLAM	APR, 1984	1,763	95.2
27	JEFFERSON	APR, 1984	443	
28	KITTITAS	JULY, 1984	721	96.0
29	DOUGLAS	JULY, 1984	445	
30	ISLAND	OCT, 1984	1,365	97.2
31	SAN JUAN	OCT, 1984	221	
32	OKANOGAN	JAN, 1985	1,018	98.1
33	FERRY	JAN, 1985	182	
34	WHITMAN	APR, 1985	638	98.7
35	ADAMS	APR, 1985	389	
36	PACIFIC	JULY, 1985	685	99.4
37	WAHKIAKUM	JULY, 1985	84	
38	KLICKITAT	OCT, 1985	506	100.0
39	SKAMANIA	OCT, 1985	271	

PROPOSED LONG-RANGE

JUVIS SITE IMPLEMENTATION

ORDER	COURT SITE	TENTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE ON-LINE SERVICE	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE INDEX COVERAGE
1	CLARK COUNTY JUVENILE	CURRENT	4.5	4.5
2	PIERCE	CURRENT	16.2	16.2
3	YAKIMA	CURRENT	20.4	20.4
4	BENTON/FRANKLIN	CURRENT	23.6	23.6
5	SPOKANE	CURRENT	32.1	32.1
6	SNOHOMISH	CURRENT	39.8	100.0
7	GRANT	NOV, 1980	41.0	(The entire state is covered by a "mail-in" system on juvenile adjudications called JUVIS)
8	COWLITZ	APR, 1981	43.0	
9	GRAYS HARBOR	JUNE, 1981	44.6	
10	SKAGIT	AUG, 1981	46.1	
11	WHATCOM	OCT, 1981	48.7	
12	LEWIS	DEC, 1981	50.1	
13	KITSAP	FEB, 1982	53.5	
14	THURSTON	APR, 1982	56.3	
15	MASON	JUNE, 1982	57.0	
16	CLALLAM/JEFFERSON	AUG, 1982	58.5	
17	ISLAND	OCT, 1982	59.6	
18	COLUMBIA/WALLA WALLA	DEC, 1982	60.9	
19	CHELAN	FEB, 1983	62.0	
20	WHITMAN	APR, 1983	63.1	
21	FERRY/OKANOGAN	JULY, 1983	64.0	

ORDER	COURT SITE	TENTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE ON-LINE SERVICE	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE INDEX COVERAGE
22	KITTITAS	SEPT, 1983	64.7	
23	PACIFIC/WAHKIAKUM	NOV, 1983	65.2	
24	DOUGLAS	JAN, 1984	65.8	
25	STEVENS	MAR, 1984	66.5	
26	PEND OREILLE	MAY, 1984	66.7	
27	ASOTIN/GARFIELD	JULY, 1984	67.2	
28	LINCOLN	SEPT, 1984	67.5	
29	ADAMS	NOV, 1984	67.9	
30	KLICKITAT	JAN, 1985	68.3	
31	SKAMANIA	MAR, 1985	68.5	
32	SAN JUAN	MAY, 1985	68.7	

PROPOSED LONG-RANGE

DISCIS SITE IMPLEMENTATION ORDER

ORDER	COURT SITE	TENTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE	TOTAL FILINGS	1978 CASELOAD CUMULATIVE % OF STATE
1	THURSTON COUNTY DISTRICT	CURRENT	17,702	1.4
2	LEWIS COUNTY DISTRICT	CURRENT	14,124	2.5
3	RENTON DIST/MUNI (KING)	CURRENT	18,278	4.0
4	LACEY MUNICIPAL	SEPT, 1980	1,964	4.2
5	AUKEEN DISTRICT (KING)	NOV, 1980	15,936	5.5
6	ROXBURY DISTRICT (KING)	DEC, 1980	11,262	6.4
7	AIRPORT DISTRICT (KING)	JAN, 1981	18,932	8.0
8	TUKWILA MUNICIPAL (KING)	FEB, 1981	3,528	8.2
9	SPOKANE DISTRICT/MUNICIPAL	APR, 1981	75,664	14.4
10	SEATTLE MUNICIPAL	JULY, 1981	143,328	26.0
11	YAKIMA DISTRICT/MUNICIPAL	JAN, 1982	45,310	29.6
12	CLARK COUNTY DISTRICT	MAR, 1982	53,579	34.0
13	NORTHEAST DISTRICT (KING)	MAY, 1982	40,336	37.3
14	BELLEVUE DIST/MUNI (KING)	JULY, 1982	32,469	39.9
15	SOUTH SNOHOMISH DIST/MUNI	AUG, 1982	19,178	41.4
16	SHORELINE DISTRICT (KING)	SEPT, 1982	9,585	42.2
17	SEATTLE DISTRICT (KING)	OCT, 1982	31,525	44.8
18	EVERETT DISTRICT/MUNICIPAL	NOV, 1982	42,616	48.2
19	CHELAN COUNTY DISTRICT	DEC, 1982	14,816	49.4
20	PIERCE COUNTY DISTRICT #1	JAN, 1983	44,964	53.1
21	TACOMA MUNICIPAL	MAR, 1983	29,275	55.4

ORDER	COURT SITE	TENTATIVE IMPLEMENTATION DATE	1978 CASELOAD TOTAL FILINGS	CUMULATIVE % OF STATE
22	EVERGREEN (SNOHOMISH)	MAY, 1983	11,702	56.4
23	CASCADE	JUNE, 1983	9,181	57.1
24	KITSAP DISTRICT #1	JULY, 1983	6,388	57.6
25	BREMERTON MUNICIPAL	AUG, 1983	11,364	58.6
26	KITSAP DISTRICT #2	SEPT, 1983	10,131	59.4
27	ISSAQUAH (KING)	OCT, 1983	8,449	60.1
28	MERCER ISLAND (KING)	NOV, 1983	4,498	60.4
29	BENTON COUNTY DISTRICT	DEC, 1983	31,379	63.0
30	COWLITZ COUNTY DISTRICT	JAN, 1984	26,249	65.1
31	FRANKLIN COUNTY DISTRICT	FEB, 1984	5,857	65.6
32	ELLENSBURG DIST/MUNI	MAR, 1984	20,848	67.3
33	FEDERAL WAY DISTRICT	APR, 1984	18,900	68.8
34	CHELAN DISTRICT WENATCHEE MUNICIPAL	MAY, 1984	14,816	70.0
35	GRAYS HARBOR DISTRICT	JUNE, 1984	14,095	71.1

The remainder of the approximately 250 District and Municipal Courts need to be scheduled.

VI. Funding Considerations

Present and past funding for JIS activities came from legislative appropriations and federal grants for exemplary judicial information projects. These funds provided for the development of the present capacity. JIS provides automated support for the appellate, superior, juvenile, district and municipal courts. The functions span such diverse areas as detention reports in the juvenile area, appellate case management, superior court case calendaring, and district court accounting of traffic citations. The system is comprehensive in its functional coverage. The federal participation spanned the years 1976-1980 and was focused upon the development of a national, responsive, state-wide judicial information system model. The consequent growth in use by Washington courts of all levels has been very impressive. The volume of cases handled has doubled every year for the last 3 years. That volume would be even higher were it not for limitations in the present funding methods. The present legislative and federal funding support provides for an "end of current biennium" rate of expenditure at approximately $3.5 million per annum.

The Legislature has requested this study to develop practical alternatives to the traditional general fund appropriation. The first logical step is to outline the spectrum of alternatives.

Funds are derived from four levels or sources: federal, state, and local governments as well as individual citizens. However, all funds ultimately come from the taxpayer. Within each level, there are various paths of fund flow. But in the governmental units, virtually all funds come from budget legislation from Congress, the Legislature, or county commissions or councils. Sometimes one agency will receive an appropriation and subsequently expend some of its funds

buying services from another. However, the financial burden of the second recipient of the funds is still a burden on the original legislative body's budget. The point is, the basic source of funding is the main question, not which "pass-through" schemes are the most appropriate. JIS is a major government activity and requires the most candid analysis available.

The second step is to outline the valid criteria for the practical funding of the JIS program. The most important criterion is the identification of the benefit (burden)--payment relationship. If the person benefiting from or requiring the service can pay for that service, that is usually most appropriate. A second criterion is ease of collection. Toll fees and licenses are some of the easiest taxes to collect and may be the most willingly paid, since a service is provided. A third criterion is the social acceptability of a funding source. This criterion is particularly difficult to measure. One reasonable measurement is to review the history of similar approaches.

Investigation reveals that allowing users of public services to pay for all or part of the cost of the service is a time-honored approach to permanent funding of governmental activities. In the Washington court systems, there is already a series of such schedules existing, including Traffic Safety Education (RCW 46.81.030), Criminal Justice Training (RCW 43.101.210), Recreational Parking Penalty (RCW 46.61.587), Motor Vehicle Intoxication Program (RCW 46.61.518), Crime Victims Compensation (RCW 7.68.035), Game Penalty Assessment (RCW 77.12.173), Law Library Fund (RCW 27.24.070) and judges' salaries (RCW 36.18.025). The most recent addition to this list is the enactment during the 1980 session of the Legislature of a JIS fee from Superior Court filings (RCW 36.18.027). Therefore, it appears that litigant-oriented user fees are already an acceptable and frequently used funding method.

The final logical step is to compare the various funding alternatives, keeping in mind the legislative mandate. The first alternative is to continue the present funding of direct state appropriation. A second alternative is county or city funding. However, asking 39 separate county and an unknown number of city funding bodies to agree on a common rate for JIS use would be a technical improbability. Since the user rate would vary depending upon the number of jurisdictions that chose to join, it would not be possible to forecast the per unit cost until it was known how many jurisdictions used the system. The marketing cost to convince each individual jurisdiction during each budget cycle would be considerable.

A third alternative, and one that avoids the enormous task of budgeting within each of the many county governments, is to have the costs of JIS borne by the users of the courts. A direct litigant fee payment satisfactorily passes the evaluations of benefit (burden)--payment relationship, ease of collection, and the social acceptability of the potential funding sources. This alternative is superior to the present alternative of direct state appropriation because the costs are borne by the user-beneficiary of the services, as opposed to being paid for by all state residents through tax monies. <u>It is this alternative which the committee recommends</u>.

VII. Recommendations

Therefore, the JIS Funding Committee recommends that the present JIS fund be used to receive monies from the collection of fees, penalty assessments, fines, forfeitures and restitution or costs assessments. Further, the Committee recommends the legislation be adopted as quickly as possible to allow time for the courts to establish collection procedures and to establish a base account balance.

To that end, the legislation in Appendix A is recommended for adoption by the Legislature.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

APPENDIX A

1 AN ACT Relating to the judicial information system; amending CR81B
2 section 2, chapter 70, Laws of 1980 and RCW 36.18.027; F
3 amending section 13, chapter 136, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. Z
4 as amended by section 4, chapter 128, Laws of 1980 and -70;1
5 RCW 46.63.110; amending section 13, chapter 128, Laws of PARTA
6 1980 and RCW 46.63.150; adding a new section to chapter ;10
7 2.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 3.62 RCW; 9
8 adding a new section to chapter 4.64 RCW; adding a new 10
9 section to chapter 13.40 RCW; providing an effective 11
10 date; and declaring an emergency. 11

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON: 12

12 NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 2.32 14
13 RCW a new section to read as follows: 14
14 Fifty percent of each fee or monetary penalty collected 15
15 by the clerk of the supreme court or the clerks of the court of 16
16 appeals shall be allocated to the payment of costs associated 16
17 with the judicial information system. Such funds shall be 16
18 transmitted each month to the state treasurer for deposit in the 17
19 judicial information system account in the general fund. The 17
20 money deposited in such account shall not be spent for any 18
21 purpose other than that stated in this section. 18

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 3.62 RCW 20
23 a new section to read as follows: 20
24 A cost of five dollars shall be collected in addition to 21
25 the filing fee collected for each civil action and the fine(s) 22
26 or forfeiture(s) collected for each criminal action in courts of 22
27 limited jurisdiction and shall be allocated to the payment of 23
28 costs associated with the judicial information system. Such 23

1 funds shall be transmitted each month to the state treasurer for 24
2 deposit in the judicial information system account in the 24
3 general fund. The money deposited in such account shall not be 24
4 spent for any purpose other than that stated in this section. 25
5 The section does not apply to small claims as defined in chapter 26
6 12.40 RCW. 26

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. There is added to chapter 4.64 RCW 28
8 a new section to read as follows: 28
9 An amount equal to twelve dollars shall be paid for each 29
10 judgment entered pursuant to this title to be paid by the 30
11 prevailing party or parties for whom the judgment is entered for 30
12 allocation to the payment of costs associated with the judicial 31
13 information system. Such funds shall be transmitted each month 31
14 to the state treasurer for deposit in the judicial information 32
15 system account in the general fund. The money deposited in such 32
16 account shall not be spent for any purpose other than that 32
17 stated in this section. 33

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. There is added to chapter 13.40 35
19 RCW a new section to read as follows: 35
20 A cost of five dollars shall be collected in addition to 36
21 each fee, forfeiture, monetary penalty, or cost collected by 36
22 juvenile courts and shall be allocated to the payment of costs 37
23 associated with the judicial information system. Such funds 37
24 shall be transmitted each month to the state treasurer for 38
25 deposit in the judicial information system account in the 38
26 general fund. The money deposited in such account shall not be 39
27 spent for any purpose other than that stated in this section. 39

28 Sec. 5. Section 2, chapter 70, Laws of 1980 and RCW 41
29 36.18.027 are each amended to read as follows: 42
30 An amount equal to two dollars of each filing fee paid 43
31 pursuant to RCW 36.18.020 (1), (2), (11), ((and)) (12), and 44
32 (16), as now or hereafter amended, shall be allocated to the 44
33 payment of costs associated with the judicial information 45
34 system. The county treasurer shall transmit such payment each 46

1 month to the state treasurer for deposit in the judicial 46
2 information system account which is hereby created in the 47
3 general fund. The money deposited in such account shall not be 48
4 spent for any purpose other than that stated in this section. 48

5 Sec. 6. Section 13, chapter 136, Laws of 1979 ex. sess. 50
6 as amended by section 4, chapter 128, Laws of 1980 and RCW 50
7 46.63.110 are each amended to read as follows: 51
8 (1) A person found to have committed a traffic 52
9 infraction shall be assessed a monetary penalty. No penalty may 53
10 exceed two hundred and fifty dollars for each offense unless 54
11 authorized by this chapter or title. 54
12 (2) The supreme court may prescribe by rule a schedule 55
13 of monetary penalties for designated traffic infractions. 56
14 (3) There shall be a penalty of twenty-five dollars for 57
15 failure to respond to a notice of traffic infraction or failure 58
16 to pay a monetary penalty imposed pursuant to this chapter. 59
17 (4) Monetary penalties provided for in chapter 46.70 RCW 60
18 which are civil in nature and penalties which may be assessed 61
19 for violations of chapter 46.44 RCW relating to size, weight, 62
20 and load of motor vehicles are not subject to the limitation on 63
21 the amount of monetary penalties which may be imposed pursuant 64
22 to this chapter. 64
23 (5) Whenever a monetary penalty is imposed by a court 65
24 under this chapter it is immediately payable. If the person is 66
25 unable to pay at that time the court may, in its discretion, 67
26 grant an extension of the period in which the penalty may be 68
27 paid. If the penalty is not paid on or before the time 69
28 established for payment the court shall notify the department of 69
29 the failure to pay the penalty, and the department may not renew 70
30 the person's driver's license until the penalty has been paid 71
31 and the penalty provided in subsection (3) of this section has 72
32 been paid. 72
33 <u>(6) There shall be levied and paid into the judicial</u> 73
34 <u>information system account in the general fund of the state</u> 74
35 <u>treasury, and allocated to the payment of costs associated with</u> 75

the judicial information system, a five-dollar cost in addition to the fine or bail forfeiture on all offenses involving a violation of a state statute or city or county ordinance relating to the operation or use of motor vehicles or the licensing of vehicle operators, except offenses relating to parking of vehicles. The money deposited in the account shall not be spent for any purpose other than that stated in this subsection.

Sec. 7. Section 13, chapter 128, Laws of 1980 and RCW 46.63.150 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) ((~~Notwithstanding any other provision of law,~~)) The court may suspend either a portion or all of the costs of the action except amounts paid for allocation to the payment of costs associated with the judicial information system.

(2) The court may not award attorney's fees or costs to the defendant in a traffic infraction case.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect April 1, 1981.

REVENUE ESTIMATES

APPENDIX B

JIS BASELINE FUNDING FORMULA

	Annual Case Volume[1]	Estimated Collection Rate[2]	Proposed Fee Per Case Filed	Annual Revenue
Appellate Courts	3,100	80%	$75[3]	$186,000
Superior Courts				
Civil	80,000	100%	2[4]	160,000
Judgments	52,000	100%	12	624,000
Criminal	15,000	40%	2	12,000
Probate	11,000	100%	2[4]	22,000
Guardianship	2,000	100%	2[4]	4,000
Adoptions	4,000	100%	2[4]	8,000
Mental Illness	4,000	0		0
Other Civil (Abstracts & Transcripts)	10,000	0		0
				$830,000
Juvenile	20,000	50%	5	50,000
Courts of Limited Jurisdiction				
Criminal	130,000	40%	5	260,000
(Misdemeanors	47,000)			
(City Ordinances	73,000)			
(Felony	10,000)			
Major Traffic	80,000	60%	5	240,000
Traffic Infractions	730,000	55%	5	2,008,000
Civil	70,000	100%	5	350,000
Small Claims	20,000	0	0	0
				2,858,000
				$3,924,000

(1) Based on 1979 date in 23rd Annual Report Office of the Administrator for the Courts.

(2) Estimates based on survey and analysis of types of cases within categories.

(3) Assumes an Appellate filing fee of $150 will be enacted.

(4) Present law provides $2 of the $60 filing fee go to JIS.