About the Senate of Virginia

- 40 Senators
- 11 Committees
- 25 Sub-Committees
- 4 Year Term
- District Size: 200,000 Citizens (approximate)
- Presiding Officer: Lieutenant Governor
- Clerk: Susan Clarke Schaar
- 275 Desktops & 200 Email Accounts
Why we started looking at Cloud Solutions

• Looking to simplify disaster recovery

• Unhappy with current Email System

• We were trying to get Legislative Offices to use Senate Email System year round (only 4 offices before move 10%)

• Already moving applications to the Web

• Less reliance on a heavy client
Pros

• Universal Interface (some may say this is a con)

• More Familiar Interface

• Simpler Licensing Structure

• More accessible

• Greater Smartphone Support

• More Client Options
Cons

• Universal Address Book
• Universal Address Book Sharing
• Cloud Providers are Hacker Targets
• Privacy
• Loss of Control
• Downtime
How we moved to the Cloud

• Pilot began July 2009

• Expanded the Pilot Group later that year

• Began moving users August 2010

• All users moved to Google Apps by November 2010
Findings

• Some will be Happy

• There will be Resistance to Change

• Our Full Time Staff had the hardest time transitioning

• Legislative Offices have liked the switch (for the most part)

• We have about 75% of offices using the account all year
Thank You

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