

By: Capriglione

H.B. No. 5195

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to modernization of state agency Internet websites and digital services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2054, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter S to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER S. MODERNIZATION OF STATE AGENCY INTERNET WEBSITES AND DIGITAL SERVICES

Sec. 2054.651. STATE AGENCY DIGITAL MODERNIZATION. Each state agency shall assess the agency's Internet website and online service portals to identify areas for improvement in user accessibility, navigation, and digital service efficiency. In performing the assessment, a state agency shall consider:

(1) strategies to simplify user access to forms, applications, and agency services;

(2) opportunities to reduce or eliminate paperwork requirements if electronic alternatives exist;

(3) enhancements to ensure compliance with accessibility standards under Subchapter M;

(4) using responsive web design to ensure the agency's Internet website is equally accessible using a desktop computer, laptop computer, or mobile device, including a tablet or cellular telephone;

(5) adopting best practices for search functionality,

1 page load speed, and service integration; and

2 (6) using the department's web page templates and web
3 design guidelines to provide consistency among state agency
4 Internet websites and improve the usability of the website.

5 Sec. 2054.652. INTERAGENCY GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT. (a) In
6 this section, "user-centered design" means a design approach
7 focused on optimizing the user experience by improving Internet
8 website navigation, accessibility, and responsiveness.

9 (b) The department shall provide guidance and technical
10 assistance for use by state agencies in standardizing agency
11 modernization planning efforts required by Section 2054.651.

12 (c) The department shall develop and disseminate best
13 practices for user-centered design, digital accessibility, and
14 service integration, including web page templates and web design
15 guidelines that provide a consistent look for state agency Internet
16 websites and simplify user navigation.

17 (d) The department may establish a working group of state
18 agency technology officers to facilitate information sharing and
19 support consistency across agencies.

20 Sec. 2054.653. LEGISLATIVE REPORT. (a) Not later than
21 November 15, 2026, the department shall submit a report to the
22 legislature detailing the status of the state agency digital
23 modernization planning efforts required by this subchapter and
24 identifying common priorities and challenges.

25 (b) This section expires January 1, 2027.

26 Sec. 2054.654. REVIEW OF DIGITAL MODERNIZATION EFFORTS.

27 (a) Each state agency, in coordination with the department and the

1 Legislative Budget Board, shall:

2 (1) biennially review the implementation of the
3 agency's digital modernization efforts under this subchapter,
4 including a review of the:

5 (A) cost-efficiency of the agency's digital
6 modernization efforts;

7 (B) effectiveness of digital service upgrades in
8 improving public access; and

9 (C) agency's compliance with any statewide
10 guidance relating to digital modernization; and

11 (2) submit the findings of the review described by
12 Subdivision (1) to the department.

13 (b) Not later than December 1 of each odd-numbered year, the
14 department shall prepare and submit to the governor, the lieutenant
15 governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives a report
16 on the findings submitted under Subsection (a)(2).

17 (c) This section expires September 1, 2031.

18 SECTION 2. The Department of Information Resources shall
19 submit the initial report required by Section 2054.654(b),
20 Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 1,
21 2027.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.