

1 AN ACT

2 relating to cybersecurity for state agency information resources.

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

4 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Texas Cybersecurity  
5 Act.

6 SECTION 2. Section [325.011](#), Government Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 325.011. CRITERIA FOR REVIEW. The commission and its  
9 staff shall consider the following criteria in determining whether  
10 a public need exists for the continuation of a state agency or its  
11 advisory committees or for the performance of the functions of the  
12 agency or its advisory committees:

13 (1) the efficiency and effectiveness with which the  
14 agency or the advisory committee operates;

15 (2)(A) an identification of the mission, goals, and  
16 objectives intended for the agency or advisory committee and of the  
17 problem or need that the agency or advisory committee was intended  
18 to address; and

19 (B) the extent to which the mission, goals, and  
20 objectives have been achieved and the problem or need has been  
21 addressed;

22 (3)(A) an identification of any activities of the  
23 agency in addition to those granted by statute and of the authority  
24 for those activities; and

1 (B) the extent to which those activities are  
2 needed;

3 (4) an assessment of authority of the agency relating  
4 to fees, inspections, enforcement, and penalties;

5 (5) whether less restrictive or alternative methods of  
6 performing any function that the agency performs could adequately  
7 protect or provide service to the public;

8 (6) the extent to which the jurisdiction of the agency  
9 and the programs administered by the agency overlap or duplicate  
10 those of other agencies, the extent to which the agency coordinates  
11 with those agencies, and the extent to which the programs  
12 administered by the agency can be consolidated with the programs of  
13 other state agencies;

14 (7) the promptness and effectiveness with which the  
15 agency addresses complaints concerning entities or other persons  
16 affected by the agency, including an assessment of the agency's  
17 administrative hearings process;

18 (8) an assessment of the agency's rulemaking process  
19 and the extent to which the agency has encouraged participation by  
20 the public in making its rules and decisions and the extent to which  
21 the public participation has resulted in rules that benefit the  
22 public;

23 (9) the extent to which the agency has complied with:

24 (A) federal and state laws and applicable rules  
25 regarding equality of employment opportunity and the rights and  
26 privacy of individuals; and

27 (B) state law and applicable rules of any state

1 agency regarding purchasing guidelines and programs for  
2 historically underutilized businesses;

3 (10) the extent to which the agency issues and  
4 enforces rules relating to potential conflicts of interest of its  
5 employees;

6 (11) the extent to which the agency complies with  
7 Chapters 551 and 552 and follows records management practices that  
8 enable the agency to respond efficiently to requests for public  
9 information;

10 (12) the effect of federal intervention or loss of  
11 federal funds if the agency is abolished; ~~and~~

12 (13) the extent to which the purpose and effectiveness  
13 of reporting requirements imposed on the agency justifies the  
14 continuation of the requirement; and

15 (14) an assessment of the agency's cybersecurity  
16 practices using confidential information available from the  
17 Department of Information Resources or any other appropriate state  
18 agency.

19 SECTION 3. Section 551.089, Government Code, is amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 Sec. 551.089. DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES OR  
22 SECURITY AUDITS; CLOSED MEETING [~~DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION~~  
23 ~~RESOURCES~~]. This chapter does not require a governmental body [~~the~~  
24 ~~governing board of the Department of Information Resources~~] to  
25 conduct an open meeting to deliberate:

26 (1) security assessments or deployments relating to  
27 information resources technology;

1 (2) network security information as described by  
2 Section 2059.055(b); or

3 (3) the deployment, or specific occasions for  
4 implementation, of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or  
5 security devices.

6 SECTION 4. Section 552.139, Government Code, is amended by  
7 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

8 (d) When posting a contract on an Internet website as  
9 required by Section 2261.253, a state agency shall redact  
10 information made confidential by this section or excepted from  
11 public disclosure by this section. Redaction under this subsection  
12 does not except information from the requirements of Section  
13 552.021.

14 SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 2054, Government Code, is  
15 amended by adding Section 2054.0594 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 2054.0594. INFORMATION SHARING AND ANALYSIS CENTER.

17 (a) The department shall establish an information sharing and  
18 analysis center to provide a forum for state agencies to share  
19 information regarding cybersecurity threats, best practices, and  
20 remediation strategies.

21 (b) The department shall appoint persons from appropriate  
22 state agencies to serve as representatives to the information  
23 sharing and analysis center.

24 (c) The department, using funds other than funds  
25 appropriated to the department in a general appropriations act,  
26 shall provide administrative support to the information sharing and  
27 analysis center.

1 SECTION 6. Section 2054.076, Government Code, is amended by  
2 adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

3 (b-1) The department shall provide mandatory guidelines to  
4 state agencies regarding the continuing education requirements for  
5 cybersecurity training that must be completed by all information  
6 resources employees of the agencies. The department shall consult  
7 with the Information Technology Council for Higher Education on  
8 applying the guidelines to institutions of higher education.

9 SECTION 7. Sections 2054.077(b) and (e), Government Code,  
10 are amended to read as follows:

11 (b) The information resources manager of a state agency  
12 shall ~~[may]~~ prepare or have prepared a report, including an  
13 executive summary of the findings of the biennial report, not later  
14 than October 15 of each even-numbered year, assessing the extent to  
15 which a computer, a computer program, a computer network, a  
16 computer system, a printer, an interface to a computer system,  
17 including mobile and peripheral devices, computer software, or data  
18 processing of the agency or of a contractor of the agency is  
19 vulnerable to unauthorized access or harm, including the extent to  
20 which the agency's or contractor's electronically stored  
21 information is vulnerable to alteration, damage, erasure, or  
22 inappropriate use.

23 (e) Separate from the executive summary described by  
24 Subsection (b), a state agency ~~[whose information resources manager~~  
25 ~~has prepared or has had prepared a vulnerability report]~~ shall  
26 prepare a summary of the agency's vulnerability report that does  
27 not contain any information the release of which might compromise

1 the security of the state agency's or state agency contractor's  
2 computers, computer programs, computer networks, computer systems,  
3 printers, interfaces to computer systems, including mobile and  
4 peripheral devices, computer software, data processing, or  
5 electronically stored information. The summary is available to  
6 the public on request.

7 SECTION 8. Section 2054.1125(b), Government Code, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (b) A state agency that owns, licenses, or maintains  
10 computerized data that includes sensitive personal information,  
11 confidential information, or information the disclosure of which is  
12 regulated by law shall, in the event of a breach or suspected breach  
13 of system security or an unauthorized exposure of that information:

14 (1) comply[~~, in the event of a breach of system~~  
15 ~~security,~~ with the notification requirements of Section 521.053,  
16 Business & Commerce Code, to the same extent as a person who  
17 conducts business in this state; and

18 (2) not later than 48 hours after the discovery of the  
19 breach, suspected breach, or unauthorized exposure, notify:

20 (A) the department, including the chief  
21 information security officer and the state cybersecurity  
22 coordinator; or

23 (B) if the breach, suspected breach, or  
24 unauthorized exposure involves election data, the secretary of  
25 state.

26 SECTION 9. Section 2054.512, Government Code, is amended to  
27 read as follows:

1           Sec. 2054.512. CYBERSECURITY [~~PRIVATE INDUSTRY-GOVERNMENT~~  
2 COUNCIL. (a) The state cybersecurity coordinator shall [~~may~~]  
3 establish and lead a cybersecurity council that includes public and  
4 private sector leaders and cybersecurity practitioners to  
5 collaborate on matters of cybersecurity concerning this state.

6           (b) The cybersecurity council must include:

7           (1) one member who is an employee of the office of the  
8 governor;

9           (2) one member of the senate appointed by the  
10 lieutenant governor;

11           (3) one member of the house of representatives  
12 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

13           (4) additional members appointed by the state  
14 cybersecurity coordinator, including representatives of  
15 institutions of higher education and private sector leaders.

16           (c) In appointing representatives from institutions of  
17 higher education to the cybersecurity council, the state  
18 cybersecurity coordinator shall consider appointing members of the  
19 Information Technology Council for Higher Education.

20           (d) The cybersecurity council shall:

21           (1) consider the costs and benefits of establishing a  
22 computer emergency readiness team to address cyber attacks  
23 occurring in this state during routine and emergency situations;

24           (2) establish criteria and priorities for addressing  
25 cybersecurity threats to critical state installations;

26           (3) consolidate and synthesize best practices to  
27 assist state agencies in understanding and implementing

1 cybersecurity measures that are most beneficial to this state; and  
2 (4) assess the knowledge, skills, and capabilities of  
3 the existing information technology and cybersecurity workforce to  
4 mitigate and respond to cyber threats and develop recommendations  
5 for addressing immediate workforce deficiencies and ensuring a  
6 long-term pool of qualified applicants.

7 (e) The cybersecurity council shall provide recommendations  
8 to the legislature on any legislation necessary to implement  
9 cybersecurity best practices and remediation strategies for this  
10 state.

11 SECTION 10. Section 2054.133, Government Code, is amended  
12 by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

13 (e) Each state agency shall include in the agency's  
14 information security plan a written acknowledgment that the  
15 executive director or other head of the agency, the chief financial  
16 officer, and each executive manager as designated by the state  
17 agency have been made aware of the risks revealed during the  
18 preparation of the agency's information security plan.

19 SECTION 11. Subchapter N-1, Chapter 2054, Government Code,  
20 is amended by adding Sections 2054.515, 2054.516, 2054.517, and  
21 2054.518 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 2054.515. AGENCY INFORMATION SECURITY ASSESSMENT AND  
23 REPORT. (a) At least once every two years, each state agency shall  
24 conduct an information security assessment of the agency's  
25 information resources systems, network systems, digital data  
26 storage systems, digital data security measures, and information  
27 resources vulnerabilities.



1       (b) Not later than December 1 of the year in which a state  
2 agency conducts the assessment under Subsection (a), the agency  
3 shall report the results of the assessment to the department, the  
4 governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
5 representatives.

6       (c) The department by rule may establish the requirements  
7 for the information security assessment and report required by this  
8 section.

9       Sec. 2054.516. DATA SECURITY PLAN FOR ONLINE AND MOBILE  
10 APPLICATIONS. Each state agency, other than an institution of  
11 higher education subject to Section 2054.517, implementing an  
12 Internet website or mobile application that processes any sensitive  
13 personal information or confidential information must:

14           (1) submit a biennial data security plan to the  
15 department not later than October 15 of each even-numbered year to  
16 establish planned beta testing for the website or application; and

17           (2) subject the website or application to a  
18 vulnerability and penetration test and address any vulnerability  
19 identified in the test.

20       Sec. 2054.517. DATA SECURITY PROCEDURES FOR ONLINE AND  
21 MOBILE APPLICATIONS OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. (a) Each  
22 institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003,  
23 Education Code, shall adopt and implement a policy for Internet  
24 website and mobile application security procedures that complies  
25 with this section.

26       (b) Before deploying an Internet website or mobile  
27 application that processes confidential information for an

1 institution of higher education, the developer of the website or  
2 application for the institution must submit to the institution's  
3 information security officer the information required under  
4 policies adopted by the institution to protect the privacy of  
5 individuals by preserving the confidentiality of information  
6 processed by the website or application. At a minimum, the  
7 institution's policies must require the developer to submit  
8 information describing:

- 9           (1) the architecture of the website or application;  
10           (2) the authentication mechanism for the website or  
11 application; and  
12           (3) the administrator level access to data included in  
13 the website or application.

14           (c) Before deploying an Internet website or mobile  
15 application described by Subsection (b), an institution of higher  
16 education must subject the website or application to a  
17 vulnerability and penetration test conducted internally or by an  
18 independent third party.

19           (d) Each institution of higher education shall submit to the  
20 department the policies adopted as required by Subsection (b). The  
21 department shall review the policies and make recommendations for  
22 appropriate changes.

23           Sec. 2054.518. CYBERSECURITY RISKS AND INCIDENTS. (a) The  
24 department shall develop a plan to address cybersecurity risks and  
25 incidents in this state. The department may enter into an agreement  
26 with a national organization, including the National Cybersecurity  
27 Preparedness Consortium, to support the department's efforts in

1 implementing the components of the plan for which the department  
2 lacks resources to address internally. The agreement may include  
3 provisions for:

4 (1) providing fee reimbursement for appropriate  
5 industry-recognized certification examinations for and training to  
6 state agencies preparing for and responding to cybersecurity risks  
7 and incidents;

8 (2) developing and maintaining a cybersecurity risks  
9 and incidents curriculum using existing programs and models for  
10 training state agencies;

11 (3) delivering to state agency personnel with access  
12 to state agency networks routine training related to appropriately  
13 protecting and maintaining information technology systems and  
14 devices, implementing cybersecurity best practices, and mitigating  
15 cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities;

16 (4) providing technical assistance services to  
17 support preparedness for and response to cybersecurity risks and  
18 incidents;

19 (5) conducting cybersecurity training and simulation  
20 exercises for state agencies to encourage coordination in defending  
21 against and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents;

22 (6) assisting state agencies in developing  
23 cybersecurity information-sharing programs to disseminate  
24 information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents; and

25 (7) incorporating cybersecurity risk and incident  
26 prevention and response methods into existing state emergency  
27 plans, including continuity of operation plans and incident

1 response plans.

2 (b) In implementing the provisions of the agreement  
3 prescribed by Subsection (a), the department shall seek to prevent  
4 unnecessary duplication of existing programs or efforts of the  
5 department or another state agency.

6 (c) In selecting an organization under Subsection (a), the  
7 department shall consider the organization's previous experience  
8 in conducting cybersecurity training and exercises for state  
9 agencies and political subdivisions.

10 (d) The department shall consult with institutions of  
11 higher education in this state when appropriate based on an  
12 institution's expertise in addressing specific cybersecurity risks  
13 and incidents.

14 SECTION 12. Section 2054.575(a), Government Code, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (a) A state agency shall, with available funds, identify  
17 information security issues and develop a plan to prioritize the  
18 remediation and mitigation of those issues. The agency shall  
19 include in the plan:

20 (1) procedures for reducing the agency's level of  
21 exposure with regard to information that alone or in conjunction  
22 with other information identifies an individual maintained on a  
23 legacy system of the agency;

24 (2) the best value approach for modernizing,  
25 replacing, renewing, or disposing of a legacy system that maintains  
26 information critical to the agency's responsibilities;

27 (3) analysis of the percentage of state agency

1 personnel in information technology, cybersecurity, or other  
2 cyber-related positions who currently hold the appropriate  
3 industry-recognized certifications as identified by the National  
4 Initiative for Cybersecurity Education;

5 (4) the level of preparedness of state agency cyber  
6 personnel and potential personnel who do not hold the appropriate  
7 industry-recognized certifications to successfully complete the  
8 industry-recognized certification examinations; and

9 (5) a strategy for mitigating any workforce-related  
10 discrepancy in information technology, cybersecurity, or other  
11 cyber-related positions with the appropriate training and  
12 industry-recognized certifications.

13 SECTION 13. Section 2059.055(b), Government Code, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (b) Network security information is confidential under this  
16 section if the information is:

17 (1) related to passwords, personal identification  
18 numbers, access codes, encryption, or other components of the  
19 security system of a governmental entity [~~state agency~~];

20 (2) collected, assembled, or maintained by or for a  
21 governmental entity to prevent, detect, or investigate criminal  
22 activity; or

23 (3) related to an assessment, made by or for a  
24 governmental entity or maintained by a governmental entity, of the  
25 vulnerability of a network to criminal activity.

26 SECTION 14. Chapter 276, Election Code, is amended by  
27 adding Section 276.011 to read as follows:

1       Sec. 276.011. ELECTION CYBER ATTACK STUDY. (a) Not later  
2 than December 1, 2018, the secretary of state shall:

3           (1) conduct a study regarding cyber attacks on  
4 election infrastructure;

5           (2) prepare a public summary report on the study's  
6 findings that does not contain any information the release of which  
7 may compromise any election;

8           (3) prepare a confidential report on specific findings  
9 and vulnerabilities that is exempt from disclosure under Chapter  
10 552, Government Code; and

11           (4) submit to the standing committees of the  
12 legislature with jurisdiction over election procedures a copy of  
13 the report required under Subdivision (2) and a general compilation  
14 of the report required under Subdivision (3) that does not contain  
15 any information the release of which may compromise any election.

16       (b) The study must include:

17           (1) an investigation of vulnerabilities and risks for  
18 a cyber attack against a county's voting system machines or the list  
19 of registered voters;

20           (2) information on any attempted cyber attack on a  
21 county's voting system machines or the list of registered voters;  
22 and

23           (3) recommendations for protecting a county's voting  
24 system machines and list of registered voters from a cyber attack.

25       (c) The secretary of state, using existing resources, may  
26 contract with a qualified vendor to conduct the study required by  
27 this section.

1        (d) This section expires January 1, 2019.

2        SECTION 15. (a) The lieutenant governor shall establish a  
3 Senate Select Committee on Cybersecurity and the speaker of the  
4 house of representatives shall establish a House Select Committee  
5 on Cybersecurity to, jointly or separately, study:

6            (1) cybersecurity in this state;

7            (2) the information security plans of each state  
8 agency; and

9            (3) the risks and vulnerabilities of state agency  
10 cybersecurity.

11        (b) Not later than November 30, 2017:

12            (1) the lieutenant governor shall appoint five  
13 senators to the Senate Select Committee on Cybersecurity, one of  
14 whom shall be designated as chair; and

15            (2) the speaker of the house of representatives shall  
16 appoint five state representatives to the House Select Committee on  
17 Cybersecurity, one of whom shall be designated as chair.

18        (c) The committees established under this section shall  
19 convene separately at the call of the chair of the respective  
20 committees, or jointly at the call of both chairs. In joint  
21 meetings, the chairs of each committee shall act as joint chairs.

22        (d) Following consideration of the issues listed in  
23 Subsection (a) of this section, the committees established under  
24 this section shall jointly adopt recommendations on state  
25 cybersecurity and report in writing to the legislature any findings  
26 and adopted recommendations not later than January 13, 2019.

27        (e) This section expires September 1, 2019.

1           SECTION 16. (a) In this section, "state agency" means a  
2 board, commission, office, department, council, authority, or  
3 other agency in the executive or judicial branch of state  
4 government that is created by the constitution or a statute of this  
5 state. The term does not include a university system or institution  
6 of higher education as those terms are defined by Section 61.003,  
7 Education Code.

8           (b) The Department of Information Resources, in  
9 consultation with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission,  
10 shall conduct a study on state agency digital data storage and  
11 records management practices and the associated costs to this  
12 state.

13           (c) The study required under this section must examine:

14                 (1) the current digital data storage practices of  
15 state agencies in this state;

16                 (2) the costs associated with those digital data  
17 storage practices;

18                 (3) the digital records management and data  
19 classification policies of state agencies and whether the state  
20 agencies are consistently complying with the established policies;

21                 (4) whether the state agencies are storing digital  
22 data that exceeds established retention requirements and the cost  
23 of that unnecessary storage;

24                 (5) the adequacy of storage systems used by state  
25 agencies to securely maintain confidential digital records;

26                 (6) possible solutions and improvements recommended  
27 by the state agencies for reducing state costs and increasing



1 security for digital data storage and records management; and

2 (7) the security level and possible benefits of and  
3 the cost savings from using cloud computing services for agency  
4 data storage, data classification, and records management.

5 (d) Each state agency shall participate in the study  
6 required by this section and provide appropriate assistance and  
7 information to the Department of Information Resources and the  
8 Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

9 (e) Not later than December 1, 2018, the Department of  
10 Information Resources shall issue a report on the study required  
11 under this section and recommendations for reducing state costs and  
12 for improving efficiency in digital data storage and records  
13 management to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
14 representatives, and the appropriate standing committees of the  
15 house of representatives and the senate.

16 (f) This section expires September 1, 2019.

17 SECTION 17. The changes in law made by this Act do not apply  
18 to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas.

19 SECTION 18. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 8 was passed by the House on April 25, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 8 on May 27, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 7, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 8 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor