

AN ACT

relating to cybersecurity for information resources.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 61.09091 and 61.09092 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.09091. STRATEGIES TO INCENTIVIZE CYBERSECURITY DEGREE PROGRAMS. (a) The board in collaboration with the Department of Information Resources shall identify and develop strategies to incentivize institutions of higher education to develop degree programs in cybersecurity.

(b) The board shall consult with institutions of higher education as necessary to carry out its duties under this section.

(c) Not later than September 1, 2020, the board shall submit a written report detailing the strategies identified under this section to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education, and each governing board of an institution of higher education.

(d) This section expires September 1, 2021.

Sec. 61.09092. COORDINATION OF CYBERSECURITY COURSEWORK DEVELOPMENT. (a) In this section, "lower-division institution of higher education" means a public junior college, public state

1 college, or public technical institute.

2 (b) The board, in consultation with the Department of  
3 Information Resources, shall coordinate with lower-division  
4 institutions of higher education and entities that administer or  
5 award postsecondary industry certifications or other workforce  
6 credentials in cybersecurity to develop certificate programs or  
7 other courses of instruction leading toward those certifications or  
8 credentials that may be offered by lower-division institutions of  
9 higher education.

10 (c) The board may adopt rules as necessary for the  
11 administration of this section.

12 SECTION 2. Section 418.004(1), Government Code, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) "Disaster" means the occurrence or imminent threat  
15 of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property  
16 resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including fire,  
17 flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, oil spill or other  
18 water contamination, volcanic activity, epidemic, air  
19 contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot,  
20 hostile military or paramilitary action, extreme heat,  
21 cybersecurity event, other public calamity requiring emergency  
22 action, or energy emergency.

23 SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 437, Government Code, is  
24 amended by adding Section 437.255 to read as follows:

25 Sec. 437.255. ASSISTING TEXAS STATE GUARD WITH CYBER  
26 OPERATIONS. To serve the state and safeguard the public from  
27 malicious cyber activity, the governor may command the Texas

1 National Guard to assist the Texas State Guard with defending the  
2 state's cyber operations.

3 SECTION 4. The heading to Section 656.047, Government Code,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 Sec. 656.047. PAYMENT OF PROGRAM AND CERTIFICATION  
6 EXAMINATION EXPENSES.

7 SECTION 5. Section 656.047, Government Code, is amended by  
8 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

9 (a-1) A state agency may spend public funds as appropriate  
10 to reimburse a state agency employee or administrator who serves in  
11 an information technology, cybersecurity, or other cyber-related  
12 position for fees associated with industry-recognized  
13 certification examinations.

14 SECTION 6. Section 815.103, Government Code, is amended by  
15 adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

16 (g) The retirement system shall comply with cybersecurity  
17 and information security standards established by the Department of  
18 Information Resources under Chapter 2054.

19 SECTION 7. Section 825.103, Government Code, is amended by  
20 amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (e-1) to read as  
21 follows:

22 (e) Except as provided by Subsection (e-1), Chapters 2054  
23 and 2055 do not apply to the retirement system. The board of  
24 trustees shall control all aspects of information technology and  
25 associated resources relating to the retirement system, including  
26 computer, data management, and telecommunication operations,  
27 procurement of hardware, software, and middleware, and

1 telecommunication equipment and systems, location, operation, and  
2 replacement of computers, computer systems, and telecommunication  
3 systems, data processing, security, disaster recovery, and  
4 storage. The Department of Information Resources shall assist the  
5 retirement system at the request of the retirement system, and the  
6 retirement system may use any service that is available through  
7 that department.

8 (e-1) The retirement system shall comply with cybersecurity  
9 and information security standards established by the Department of  
10 Information Resources under Chapter 2054.

11 SECTION 8. Section 2054.0075, Government Code, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 Sec. 2054.0075. EXCEPTION: PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGE. This  
14 chapter does not apply to a public junior college or a public junior  
15 college district, except as necessary to comply with information  
16 security standards and for participation in shared technology  
17 services, including the electronic government project implemented  
18 under Subchapter I and statewide technology centers under  
19 Subchapter L [~~except as to Section 2054.119, Government Code~~].

20 SECTION 9. Section 2054.0591(a), Government Code, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a) Not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year,  
23 the department shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant  
24 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the  
25 standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary  
26 jurisdiction over state government operations a report identifying  
27 preventive and recovery efforts the state can undertake to improve

1 cybersecurity in this state. The report must include:

2 (1) an assessment of the resources available to  
3 address the operational and financial impacts of a cybersecurity  
4 event;

5 (2) a review of existing statutes regarding  
6 cybersecurity and information resources technologies;

7 (3) recommendations for legislative action to  
8 increase the state's cybersecurity and protect against adverse  
9 impacts from a cybersecurity event; and

10 (4) an evaluation of a program that provides an  
11 information security officer to assist small state agencies and  
12 local governments that are unable to justify hiring a full-time  
13 information security officer [~~the costs and benefits of~~  
14 ~~cybersecurity insurance, and~~

15 [~~(5) an evaluation of tertiary disaster recovery~~  
16 ~~options]~~.

17 SECTION 10. Section 2054.0594, Government Code, is amended  
18 to read as follows:

19 Sec. 2054.0594. INFORMATION SHARING AND ANALYSIS  
20 ORGANIZATION [~~CENTER~~]. (a) The department shall establish an  
21 information sharing and analysis organization [~~center~~] to provide a  
22 forum for state agencies, local governments, public and private  
23 institutions of higher education, and the private sector to share  
24 information regarding cybersecurity threats, best practices, and  
25 remediation strategies.

26 (b) [~~The department shall appoint persons from appropriate~~  
27 ~~state agencies to serve as representatives to the information~~

1 ~~sharing and analysis center.~~

2       ~~[(c)]~~ The department ~~[, using funds other than funds~~  
3 ~~appropriated to the department in a general appropriations act,]~~  
4 shall provide administrative support to the information sharing and  
5 analysis organization ~~[center]~~.

6       (c) A participant in the information sharing and analysis  
7 organization shall assert any exception available under state or  
8 federal law, including Section 552.139, in response to a request  
9 for public disclosure of information shared through the  
10 organization. Section 552.007 does not apply to information  
11 described by this subsection.

12       SECTION 11. Section 2054.068(e), Government Code, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14       (e) The consolidated report required by Subsection (d)  
15 must:

16           (1) include an analysis and assessment of each state  
17 agency's security and operational risks; and

18           (2) for a state agency found to be at higher security  
19 and operational risks, include a detailed analysis of agency  
20 efforts to address the risks and related vulnerabilities ~~[, and an~~  
21 ~~estimate of the costs to implement, the:~~

22                   ~~[(A) requirements for the agency to address the~~  
23 ~~risks and related vulnerabilities, and~~

24                   ~~[(B) agency's efforts to address the risks~~  
25 ~~through the:~~

26                               ~~[(i) modernization of information~~  
27 ~~technology systems,~~

1                   ~~[(ii) use of cloud services; and~~  
2                   ~~[(iii) use of a statewide technology center~~  
3 ~~established by the department].~~

4           SECTION 12. Subchapter C, Chapter 2054, Government Code, is  
5 amended by adding Section 2054.069 to read as follows:

6           Sec. 2054.069. PRIORITIZED CYBERSECURITY AND LEGACY SYSTEM  
7 PROJECTS REPORT. (a) Not later than October 1 of each  
8 even-numbered year, the department shall submit a report to the  
9 Legislative Budget Board that prioritizes, for the purpose of  
10 receiving funding, state agency:

11                   (1) cybersecurity projects; and

12                   (2) projects to modernize or replace legacy systems,  
13 as defined by Section 2054.571.

14           (b) Each state agency shall coordinate with the department  
15 to implement this section.

16           (c) A state agency shall assert any exception available  
17 under state or federal law, including Section 552.139, in response  
18 to a request for public disclosure of information contained in or  
19 written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained in  
20 connection with the report under Subsection (a). Section 552.007  
21 does not apply to information described by this subsection.

22           SECTION 13. Sections 2054.077(b) and (d), Government Code,  
23 are amended to read as follows:

24           (b) The information security officer ~~[resources manager]~~ of  
25 a state agency shall prepare or have prepared a report, including an  
26 executive summary of the findings of the biennial report, not later  
27 than October 15 of each even-numbered year, assessing the extent to

1 which a computer, a computer program, a computer network, a  
2 computer system, a printer, an interface to a computer system,  
3 including mobile and peripheral devices, computer software, or data  
4 processing of the agency or of a contractor of the agency is  
5 vulnerable to unauthorized access or harm, including the extent to  
6 which the agency's or contractor's electronically stored  
7 information is vulnerable to alteration, damage, erasure, or  
8 inappropriate use.

9 (d) The information security officer [~~resources manager~~]  
10 shall provide an electronic copy of the vulnerability report on its  
11 completion to:

- 12 (1) the department;
- 13 (2) the state auditor;
- 14 (3) the agency's executive director;
- 15 (4) the agency's designated information resources  
16 manager; and
- 17 (5) (4) [~~(4)~~] any other information technology security  
18 oversight group specifically authorized by the legislature to  
19 receive the report.

20 SECTION 14. Section 2054.1125, Government Code, is amended  
21 by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as  
22 follows:

23 (b) A state agency that owns, licenses, or maintains  
24 computerized data that includes sensitive personal information,  
25 confidential information, or information the disclosure of which is  
26 regulated by law shall, in the event of a breach or suspected breach  
27 of system security or an unauthorized exposure of that information:



1 (1) comply with the notification requirements of  
2 Section 521.053, Business & Commerce Code, to the same extent as a  
3 person who conducts business in this state; and

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

6 (A) the department, including the chief  
7 information security officer [~~and the state cybersecurity~~  
8 ~~coordinator~~]; or

9 (B) if the breach, suspected breach, or  
10 unauthorized exposure involves election data, the secretary of  
11 state.

12 (c) Not later than the 10th business day after the date of  
13 the eradication, closure, and recovery from a breach, suspected  
14 breach, or unauthorized exposure, a state agency shall notify the  
15 department, including the chief information security officer, of  
16 the details of the event and include in the notification an analysis  
17 of the cause of the event.

18 SECTION 15. Section 2054.133(e), Government Code, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 (e) Each state agency shall include in the agency's  
21 information security plan a written document that is signed by  
22 [~~acknowledgment that~~] the [~~executive director or other~~] head of the  
23 agency, the chief financial officer, and each executive manager  
24 [~~as~~] designated by the state agency and states that those persons  
25 have been made aware of the risks revealed during the preparation of  
26 the agency's information security plan.

27 SECTION 16. Section 2054.516, Government Code, as added by

1 Chapters 683 (H.B. 8) and 955 (S.B. 1910), Acts of the 85th  
2 Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, is reenacted and amended to  
3 read as follows:

4       Sec. 2054.516. DATA SECURITY PLAN FOR ONLINE AND MOBILE  
5 APPLICATIONS. (a) Each state agency[~~, other than an institution~~  
6 ~~of higher education subject to Section 2054.517,~~] implementing an  
7 Internet website or mobile application that processes any sensitive  
8 personal or personally identifiable information or confidential  
9 information must:

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

13           (2) subject the website or application to a  
14 vulnerability and penetration test and address any vulnerability  
15 identified in the test.

16       (b) The department shall review each data security plan  
17 submitted under Subsection (a) and make any recommendations for  
18 changes to the plan to the state agency as soon as practicable after  
19 the department reviews the plan.

20       SECTION 17. Subchapter N-1, Chapter 2054, Government Code,  
21 is amended by adding Section 2054.519 to read as follows:

22       Sec. 2054.519. CYBERSTAR PROGRAM; CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL.

23 (a) The state cybersecurity coordinator, in collaboration with  
24 the cybersecurity council and public and private entities in this  
25 state, shall develop best practices for cybersecurity that include:

26           (1) measureable, flexible, and voluntary  
27 cybersecurity risk management programs for public and private

1 entities to adopt to prepare for and respond to cyber incidents that  
2 compromise the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the  
3 entities' information systems;

4 (2) appropriate training and information for  
5 employees or other individuals who are most responsible for  
6 maintaining security of the entities' information systems;

7 (3) consistency with the National Institute of  
8 Standards and Technology standards for cybersecurity;

9 (4) public service announcements to encourage  
10 cybersecurity awareness; and

11 (5) coordination with local and state governmental  
12 entities.

13 (b) The state cybersecurity coordinator shall establish a  
14 cyberstar certificate program to recognize public and private  
15 entities that implement the best practices for cybersecurity  
16 developed in accordance with Subsection (a). The program must  
17 allow a public or private entity to submit to the department a form  
18 certifying that the entity has complied with the best practices and  
19 the department to issue a certificate of approval to the entity.  
20 The entity may include the certificate of approval in  
21 advertisements and other public communications.

22 SECTION 18. Chapter 2054, Government Code, is amended by  
23 adding Subchapter R to read as follows:

24 SUBCHAPTER R. INFORMATION RESOURCES OF GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

25 Sec. 2054.601. USE OF NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY. Each  
26 state agency and local government shall, in the administration of  
27 the agency or local government, consider using next generation

1 technologies, including cryptocurrency, blockchain technology, and  
2 artificial intelligence.

3 Sec. 2054.602. LIABILITY EXEMPTION. A person who in good  
4 faith discloses to a state agency or other governmental entity  
5 information regarding a potential security issue with respect to  
6 the agency's or entity's information resources technologies is not  
7 liable for any civil damages resulting from disclosing the  
8 information unless the person stole, retained, or sold any data  
9 obtained as a result of the security issue.

10 SECTION 19. Section [2059.058\(b\)](#), Government Code, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (b) In addition to the department's duty to provide network  
13 security services to state agencies under this chapter, the  
14 department by agreement may provide network security to:

15 (1) each house of the legislature;

16 (2) an agency that is not a state agency, including a  
17 legislative agency;

18 (3) a political subdivision of this state, including a  
19 county, municipality, or special district; ~~and~~

20 (4) an independent organization, as defined by Section  
21 [39.151](#), Utilities Code; and

22 (5) a public junior college.

23 SECTION 20. Section [1702.104](#), Occupations Code, is amended  
24 by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

25 (c) The review and analysis of computer-based data for the  
26 purpose of preparing for or responding to a cybersecurity event  
27 does not constitute an investigation for purposes of this section

1 and does not require licensing under this chapter.

2 SECTION 21. Chapter 31, Utilities Code, is amended by  
3 designating Sections 31.001 through 31.005 as Subchapter A and  
4 adding a subchapter heading to read as follows:

5 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

6 SECTION 22. Chapter 31, Utilities Code, is amended by  
7 adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER B. CYBERSECURITY

9 Sec. 31.051. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "utility"  
10 means:

- 11 (1) an electric cooperative;
- 12 (2) an electric utility;
- 13 (3) a municipally owned electric utility; or
- 14 (4) a transmission and distribution utility.

15 Sec. 31.052. CYBERSECURITY COORDINATION PROGRAM FOR  
16 UTILITIES. (a) The commission shall establish a program to  
17 monitor cybersecurity efforts among utilities in this state. The  
18 program shall:

19 (1) provide guidance on best practices in  
20 cybersecurity and facilitate the sharing of cybersecurity  
21 information between utilities; and

22 (2) provide guidance on best practices for  
23 cybersecurity controls for supply chain risk management of  
24 cybersecurity systems used by utilities, which may include, as  
25 applicable, best practices related to:

- 26 (A) software integrity and authenticity;
- 27 (B) vendor risk management and procurement

1 controls, including notification by vendors of incidents related to  
2 the vendor's products and services; and

3 (C) vendor remote access.

4 (b) The commission may collaborate with the state  
5 cybersecurity coordinator and the cybersecurity council  
6 established under Chapter 2054, Government Code, in implementing  
7 the program.

8 SECTION 23. Section 39.151, Utilities Code, is amended by  
9 adding Subsections (o) and (p) to read as follows:

10 (o) An independent organization certified by the commission  
11 under this section shall:

12 (1) conduct internal cybersecurity risk assessment,  
13 vulnerability testing, and employee training to the extent the  
14 independent organization is not otherwise required to do so under  
15 applicable state and federal cybersecurity and information  
16 security laws; and

17 (2) submit a report annually to the commission on the  
18 independent organization's compliance with applicable  
19 cybersecurity and information security laws.

20 (p) Information submitted in a report under Subsection (o)  
21 is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552,  
22 Government Code.

23 SECTION 24. Sections 2054.119, 2054.513, and 2054.517,  
24 Government Code, are repealed.

25 SECTION 25. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails  
26 over another Act of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019,  
27 relating to nonsubstantive additions and corrections in enacted

1 codes.

2 SECTION 26. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 64 passed the Senate on April 26, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 24, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 64 passed the House, with amendments, on May 22, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 1, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor