Key Takeaways:

1. Texas has the opportunity to **invest in cybersecurity and information technology modernization efforts** using one-time budget surplus funds and general revenue. Reforms passed last session (HB 4018, 87-R) provide a long-term pathway to improving state IT.

2.46 billion   **Cyberattack attempts** on state agencies every two months

2. During the 87th regular legislative session the Legislature made a down payment on the state's IT needs by funding a majority of requested IT projects for the 2022-23 biennium. This included $893.4 million in supplemental appropriations for cybersecurity, legacy system modernization, and other priority IT projects. These funds primarily went to 27 state agencies that identified 59 priority IT-related projects. The funding request for these projects was 86 percent larger than in the previous biennium, which shows it's **becoming more expensive just to maintain the status quo in IT**.

78%   of Texans supported using *$1 billion of federal funds to improve the state's cybersecurity and technology systems in 2021.*

Bills To Monitor:

⇒ **HB 584/SB 635 (Capriglione/Eckhardt)** and **SB 1201 (Zaffirini)** – state information technology workforce credentials.

⇒ **HB 712/SB 271 (Shaheen/Johnson)** – broader cyberattack reporting for state and local entities.

⇒ **HB 2156/SB 621 (Capriglione/Parker)** – hiring a Chief Information Security Officer at the Department of Information Resources (DIR).

⇒ **SB 498 (Johnson)** – flexibility for expanded statewide technology centers utilization.

⇒ **HB 2060 (Capriglione)** – creating artificial intelligence advisory council.

⇒ **HB 984/SB 782 (Capriglione/Birdwell)** – establishing a state Chief Privacy Officer (CPO) at DIR.