


Strengthening Texas' Digital Infrastructure


TX2036

The 2025 Texas Legislature Took Major Steps to Improve Security, Resilience and Functionality of State Data Systems

Texas government will be better able to serve and protect Texans with modernized information technology and practices.

 Our state's ability to effectively deliver services and protect the state-held data of its growing population and vibrant economy hinges on **robust, secure and efficient state information technology infrastructure.**

 In this nascent era of artificial intelligence, rapidly evolving cyber threats, and the increased utilization of modern digital tools throughout society, the Texas Legislature passed strategic measures that will enable state government to **meet and keep pace with current and future technological demands and challenges.**

 **Key among these measures passed by the 89th Legislature are bills** to create the cybersecurity-focused Texas Cyber Command, enhance IT governance and procurement, oversee and ensure responsible use of AI in government, ensure more responsive and secure digital service delivery, as well as make investments to modernize and strengthen state data systems and practices.

The 2025 Texas Legislature Took Key Steps to Improve State Operations and Leadership on Technology & Cybersecurity Issues

Establishing the Texas Cyber Command

HB 150 by Rep. Capriglione (Sen. Parker)

Creates the Texas Cyber Command at UTSA as a vital tool to defend against increasingly complex threats and proactively coordinate cyber-defenses across all levels of government.

Responsible AI Use in Government

HB 2818 by Rep. Capriglione (Sen. Parker)

Creates an Artificial Intelligence (AI) division within the Department of Information Resources (DIR), responsible for facilitating implementation of artificial intelligence technologies for state agencies and other DIR customers.

Strengthening the Department of Information Resources

HB 1500 by Rep. Keith Bell (Sen. Parker)

Directs the Department of Information Resources to implement key Sunset recommendations that enhance governance, strengthen IT procurement, and reinforce our state's cybersecurity.

AI Training for Government Employees

HB 3512 by Rep. Capriglione (Sen. Blanco)

Implements systematic AI training to position certain state and local government employees to better manage emerging technology risks, maximize the benefits of AI applications, and uphold strong standards of data security and proper, ethical use of advanced technologies.

Funding IT and Cybersecurity Needs

SB 1 by Sen. Huffman (Rep. Bonnen), HB 500 by Rep. Bonnen (Sen. Huffman), and related legislation

Funds critical "high-risk" IT projects, as well as other vital IT-related measures including:

- **Overhaul of State Workforce Data:** The Legislature funded efforts to improve the quality of data collection regarding the state's labor market and workforce needs, allowing better tailoring of job training programs.
- **Comprehensive Upgrades to Child Protective Services IT:** The Legislature funded the necessary updates to the Department of Family Protective Service's IMPACT system, allowing for technology to no longer hinder the state's ability to serve its most vulnerable children.
- **Cybersecurity Enhancements:** In addition to funding the Texas Cyber Command, the Legislature funded multiple upgrades to vulnerable state systems in a significant effort to shore up technological security.
- **Data Integration:** Various bills improved the quality of cross-agency data interoperability, including for childcare (HB 3963), prison education (SB 2405), high schools (HB 120), and health care (HB 138).

For questions,
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