

**Office of Legislative Council FY18 Proposed Budget
“Summer” IT projects**

House Appropriations March 1, 2017

1. SAN Replacement (\$140,000): The SAN is our centralized storage device. It has a replacement cycle of 5 years, and it is due to be replaced. Being such a critical piece of equipment, we also propose adding a second, redundant SAN to allow for proper maintenance of this system and to mitigate losses in the event of a hardware failure.

2. Upgrade server operating systems to MS Server 2012 R2 (\$13,750): All of our virtual servers are currently standardized on MS Server 2008 R2. In order to properly maintain these servers, it is important that we bring them up to current revisions in a timely manner. This only requires the purchase of operating system licenses and staff time.

3. Firewall redundancy (\$15,000): The firewall is a single point of failure within our environment that provides Internet access to the entire General Assembly. During the summer, the firewall was hit by lightning and damaged. The General Assembly’s website was also offline during this period of time. We propose adding a redundant firewall to allow for both proper maintenance and to mitigate losses in the event of a failure.

4. Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) (\$12,500): A large portion of the IT budget is allocated for the direct purchase or support of the physical desktops installed at every workstation. These desktops are difficult to maintain and require a lot of IT attention. We propose a pilot project to harness the same power and efficiency we enjoy with our server environment, by leveraging similar technology to deliver a user’s desktop environment to low-cost, disposable systems, located at the user’s workstation. This could allow the IT department to improve system efficiency, security, and reliability.

Total Projects Cost: \$181,250