

Summary of the Vermont Agency of Digital Service's "Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure" Report

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- **Cybersecurity Advisory Council:** A council created by [Act 71](#) “to advise on the State’s cybersecurity infrastructure, best practices, communications protocols, standards, training, and safeguards.”
 - Composed of 11 members.¹
 - Three primary goals:
 1. To develop a strategic plan for protecting the State’s public sector and private sector information and systems from cybersecurity attacks
 2. Evaluate statewide cybersecurity readiness
 3. Conduct an inventory and review of cybersecurity standards and protocols for critical sector infrastructures.
 - Exempt from public records requirements if disclosing information would jeopardize cybersecurity.
- **Progress:**
 - Initiating the Council was delayed due to the July 2023 flood event and the departure of key staff throughout the year. Staffing issues have now been resolved.
 - The council has met once already and will meet at least 2 more times before June 30, 2024
 - Goals before June 2024
 - Review and approve this report.
 - Review legislative language for the definition of ‘Essential Supply Chain,’² which is currently defined, in summary, as the supply chain for the production of medical supplies, critical infrastructure, food systems, thermal systems, etc.
 - The Council recommended no changes.
 - Develop and administer a statewide cybersecurity preparedness survey, then develop a FY2025 plan based on its results.

¹ A comprehensive list of members can be found in the report. Notable members include the two co-chairs of the council, Denise Reilly-Hughes and Shawn Nailor of the Agency of Digital services. There are also representatives from critical infrastructure organizations within Vermont.

² The full definition can be found in the report or under 20 V.S.A. § 4661.

Definition of “Essential Supply Chain” according to 20 V.S.A. § 4661.

“Essential supply chain” means supply chains for the production, in sufficient quantities, of the following articles:

- (A) medical supplies, medicines, and personal protective equipment;
- (B) articles essential to the operation, manufacture, supply, service, or maintenance of critical infrastructure;
- (C) articles critical to infrastructure construction after a natural or manmade disaster;
- (D) articles that are critical to the State’s food systems, including food supplies for individuals and households and livestock feed; and
- (E) articles that are critical to the State’s thermal systems and fuels.