

H.458

An act relating to the Agency of Digital Services

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. INTENT

The intent of this act is for the Agency of Digital Services to provide the General Assembly and the public with more transparency about the scope, budget, and overall status of certain information technology projects being managed by the Agency. This act requires the Agency to include more details about information technology projects it manages in its annual reporting as well as on its publicly available website in the form of a current projects inventory.

Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 3303 is amended to read:

§ 3303. REPORTING, RECORDS, AND REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

(a) Annual report and budget. The Secretary shall submit to the ~~General Assembly~~ House Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Institutions, concurrent with the Governor's annual budget request required under 32 V.S.A. § 306, an annual report for information technology and cybersecurity. The report shall reflect the priorities of the Agency and shall include:

(1) performance metrics and trends, including baseline and annual measurements, for each division of the Agency;

1           (2) a financial report of revenues and expenditures to date for the current  
2       fiscal year;

3           (3) costs avoided or saved as a result of technology optimization for the  
4       previous fiscal year;

5           (4) ~~an outline summary of information, including scope, schedule,~~  
6       ~~budget, and status for information technology projects with total costs of~~  
7       ~~\$500,000.00 or greater~~ a summary of each active information technology  
8       project managed by the Agency's Enterprise Project Management Office,  
9       including each project's:

10           (A) scope;

11           (B) budget;

12           (C) timeline; and

13           (D) status, which includes:

14               (i) project closure details;

15               (ii) project changes over time; and

16               (iii) other indicators of the project being on time and on budget;

17           (5) an annual update to the strategic plan prepared pursuant to  
18       subsection (c) of this section;

19           (6) a summary of independent reviews as required by subsection (d) of  
20       this section, including any uses of the waiver authority by the Chief  
21       Information Officer pursuant to subdivision (d)(3) of this section;

1 (7) the Agency budget submission;

2 (8) an annual update to the inventory required by section 3305 of this  
3 title; and-

4 (9) a report on the expenditures of the Technology Modernization  
5 Special Fund, a list of projects receiving funding from the Fund in the prior  
6 fiscal year, and a list of prioritized recommendations for projects to be funded  
7 from the Fund in the next fiscal year.

8 (b) Records. The Agency shall maintain the following records for  
9 information technology projects ~~with a total cost of \$500,000.00 or greater~~  
10 managed by the Agency's Enterprise Project Management Office:

11 (1) A business case, including staffing costs, when available to and  
12 provided by the State government business partner, life-cycle costs, and  
13 sources of funds for design, development, and implementation, as well as  
14 maintenance and operations. The business case shall include expected  
15 benefits, including cost savings and service delivery improvements.

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17 (d) Independent expert review.

18 (1) The Agency shall obtain independent expert review of any new  
19 information technology projects with a total cost of \$1,000,000.00 or greater or  
20 when required by the Chief Information Officer.

- 1           (2) The independent review shall include:
- 2               (A) an acquisition cost assessment;
- 3               (B) a technology architecture and standards review;
- 4               (C) an implementation plan assessment;
- 5               (D) a cost analysis and a model for benefit analysis;
- 6               (E) an analysis of alternatives;
- 7               (F) an impact analysis on net operating costs for the agency carrying
- 8 out the activity; and
- 9               (G) a security assessment.

10           (3) The requirement to obtain independent expert review described in

11 subdivision (1) of this subsection ~~(d)~~ may be waived by the Chief Information

12 Officer if, in ~~his or her~~ the Chief Information Officer's judgment, such a

13 review would be duplicative of one or more reviews that have been, or will be,

14 conducted under a separate federal or State requirement. If waived, such

15 waiver shall be in writing and in accordance with procedures established by the

16 Chief Information Officer.

17           (e) Current projects inventory. The Agency shall maintain a project

18 inventory on its publicly accessible website that displays the status of all

19 current information technology projects managed by the Agency's Enterprise

20 Project Management Office. The inventory shall be updated at least monthly

21 and include the:

- 1           (1) State government business partner for each project;
- 2           (2) name of each project;
- 3           (3) start date of each project;
- 4           (4) estimated date of completion at the start of the implementation phase  
5 of each project along with an indicator as to whether the project is on time;
- 6           (5) estimated project cost at the start of the implementation phase of  
7 each project along with an indicator as to whether the project is on budget;
- 8           (6) current estimated date of completion of each project; and
- 9           (7) current estimated cost of each project.

10       Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

11       This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.