

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE HEALTH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL 129

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024**

AN ACT

RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY; AMENDING THE CYBERSECURITY ACT;  
ADDING A DEFINITION FOR "PUBLIC BODY"; PROVIDING FOR  
RULEMAKING; ESTABLISHING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC  
ENTITIES RECEIVING STATE APPROPRIATIONS IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS;  
REQUIRING CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN INFORMATION  
SECURITY STANDARDS; CHANGING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
CYBERSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 9-27A-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2023,  
Chapter 115, Section 1) is amended to read:

"9-27A-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[This act]~~ Chapter 9, Article 27A  
NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Cybersecurity Act"."

**SECTION 2.** Section 9-27A-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2023,  
Chapter 115, Section 2) is amended to read:

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underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 "9-27A-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Cybersecurity Act:

2 A. "agency" means executive cabinet agencies and  
3 their administratively attached agencies, offices, boards and  
4 commissions;

5 B. "cybersecurity" means acts, practices or systems  
6 that eliminate or reduce the risk of loss of critical assets,  
7 loss of sensitive information or reputational harm as a result  
8 of a cyber attack or breach within an organization's network;

9 C. "information security" means acts, practices or  
10 systems that eliminate or reduce the risk that legally  
11 protected information or information that could be used to  
12 facilitate criminal activity is accessed or compromised through  
13 physical or electronic means;

14 D. "information technology" means computer  
15 hardware, storage media, networking equipment, physical  
16 devices, infrastructure, processes and code, firmware, software  
17 and ancillary products and services, including:

18 (1) systems design and analysis;

19 (2) development or modification of hardware or  
20 solutions used to create, process, store, secure or exchange  
21 electronic data;

22 (3) information storage and retrieval systems;

23 (4) voice, radio, video and data  
24 communications systems;

25 (5) network, hosting and cloud-based systems;

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1 (6) simulation and testing;

2 (7) interactions between a user and an  
3 information system; and

4 (8) user and system credentials; [~~and~~]

5 E. "public body" means a branch, agency,  
6 department, institution, board, bureau, commission, district or  
7 committee of the state or a county, municipality, public school  
8 or institution of higher education; and

9 [~~E-~~] F. "security officer" means the state chief  
10 information security officer."

11 **SECTION 3.** Section 9-27A-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2023,  
12 Chapter 115, Section 3) is amended to read:

13 "9-27A-3. CYBERSECURITY OFFICE CREATED--SECURITY  
14 OFFICER--DUTIES AND POWERS.--

15 A. The "cybersecurity office" is created and is  
16 administratively attached to the department of information  
17 technology. The office shall be managed by the security  
18 officer.

19 B. Except as required by federal law, the  
20 cybersecurity office shall oversee, in a fiscally responsible  
21 manner, cybersecurity- and information security-related  
22 functions for agencies and may:

23 (1) adopt and implement rules establishing  
24 minimum security standards and policies to protect [~~agency~~]  
25 state information technology systems and infrastructure and

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1 provide appropriate governance and application of the standards  
2 and policies across state information technology resources  
3 [~~used by agencies~~] to promote the availability, security and  
4 integrity of the information processed, transacted or stored by  
5 agencies in the state's information technology infrastructure  
6 and systems. The rules shall include a requirement that a  
7 public body that receives general fund appropriations for  
8 information technology resources shall report to the  
9 cybersecurity office all cybersecurity and information  
10 technology security expenditures in a form and manner  
11 established by the cybersecurity office;

12 (2) [~~develop~~] adopt and implement rules  
13 establishing minimum cybersecurity controls for managing and  
14 protecting information technology assets and infrastructure for  
15 all entities that are connected to an agency-operated or -owned  
16 telecommunications network;

17 (3) consistent with information security  
18 standards, monitor agency information technology networks and  
19 conduct information technology and security assessments to  
20 detect security vulnerability incidents and support mitigation  
21 efforts as necessary and within capabilities;

22 (4) as reasonably necessary to perform its  
23 monitoring and detection duties, obtain agency system [~~event~~]  
24 logs to support monitoring and detection pursuant to Paragraph  
25 (3) of this subsection;

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1 (5) in coordination with state and federal  
2 cybersecurity emergency management agencies as appropriate,  
3 create a model incident-response plan for public bodies to  
4 adopt with the cybersecurity office as the incident-response  
5 coordinator for incidents that:

- 6 (a) impact multiple public bodies;  
7 (b) impact more than ten thousand  
8 residents of the state;  
9 (c) involve a nation-state actor; or  
10 (d) involve the marketing or transfer of  
11 confidential data derived from a breach of cybersecurity;  
12 (6) serve as a cybersecurity resource for  
13 local governments;  
14 (7) develop a service catalog of cybersecurity  
15 services to be offered to agencies and to political  
16 subdivisions of the state;  
17 (8) collaborate with agencies in developing  
18 standards, functions and services in order to ensure the agency  
19 regulatory environments are understood and considered as part  
20 of a cybersecurity incident response;  
21 (9) establish core services to support minimum  
22 security standards and policies;  
23 (10) adopt and implement rules to establish  
24 minimum data classification policies and standards and design  
25 controls to support compliance with classifications and report

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1 on exceptions;

2 (11) adopt and implement rules to develop and  
3 issue cybersecurity awareness policies and training standards  
4 and develop and offer cybersecurity training services; ~~and~~

5 (12) adopt and implement rules to establish a  
6 centralized cybersecurity and data breach reporting process for  
7 agencies and political subdivisions of the state;

8 (13) approve agency cybersecurity and  
9 information security requests for proposals and invitations for  
10 bids that are subject to the Procurement Code, prior to final  
11 approval;

12 (14) approve agency cybersecurity and  
13 information security contracts and amendments to those  
14 contracts, including sole source contracts and price  
15 agreements, prior to final approval. Prior to making a  
16 cybersecurity or information security emergency procurement, an  
17 agency shall consult with the cybersecurity office and, upon  
18 making the procurement, shall immediately transmit notice of  
19 the procurement to the cybersecurity office; and

20 (15) review and make recommendations to the  
21 legislature on all agency, public school, higher education  
22 institution, county and municipality legislative appropriation  
23 requests related to cybersecurity and information security  
24 projects that incorporate protection of personal, sensitive or  
25 confidential information as defined by the cybersecurity office

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1 by rule prior to submission of such appropriation requests to  
2 the legislature.

3 C. The security officer may issue orders:

4 (1) regarding agency compliance with rules,  
5 policies, standards or controls issued by cybersecurity office  
6 guidelines or recommendations of the cybersecurity advisory  
7 committee; and

8 (2) necessary to protect the state's digital  
9 assets from imminent threat.

10 D. Public bodies that receive general fund  
11 appropriations used for information technology resources and  
12 that are not subject to the jurisdiction of the security  
13 officer shall adopt and implement cybersecurity, information  
14 security and privacy policies, standards and procedures based  
15 upon no less than moderate-impact security control baselines,  
16 frameworks and standards issued by the national institute of  
17 standards and technology. A public body shall certify that it  
18 complied with the applicable standard during the preceding  
19 fiscal year. The certification shall be made in the form and  
20 manner specified by the security officer by a person who  
21 possesses the compliance qualifications specified by the  
22 security officer by rule. The security officer may report any  
23 compliance concerns to authorized oversight entities and  
24 cooperate with any compliance assessment.

25 E. A public body that is not under the jurisdiction

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1 of the security officer may voluntarily comply with the rules,  
2 standards, orders and other requirements of the Cybersecurity  
3 Act and participate in the cybersecurity and information  
4 security programs offered by the cybersecurity office."

5 SECTION 4. Section 9-27A-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2023,  
6 Chapter 115, Section 5) is amended to read:

7 "9-27A-5. CYBERSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CREATED--  
8 MEMBERSHIP--DUTIES.--

9 A. The "cybersecurity advisory committee" is  
10 created within the cybersecurity office and shall:

11 (1) assist the office in the development of:

12 (a) a statewide cybersecurity plan;

13 (b) guidelines for best cybersecurity  
14 practices for agencies; and

15 (c) recommendations on how to respond to  
16 a specific cybersecurity threat or attack; and

17 (2) have authority over the hiring,  
18 supervision, discipline and compensation of the security  
19 officer.

20 B. The security officer or the security officer's  
21 designee shall chair and be [~~an advisory nonvoting~~] a voting  
22 member of the cybersecurity advisory committee; provided that  
23 the security officer shall be recused from deliberations and  
24 voting on matters concerning supervision, discipline or  
25 compensation of the security officer, and [~~the secretary of~~

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1 ~~information technology shall chair~~ the committee shall select  
2 an alternate person who is not an employee of the cybersecurity  
3 office to chair those deliberations and votes. The remaining  
4 members of the committee consist of:

5 (1) the secretary of [~~information technology~~]  
6 homeland security and emergency management or the secretary's  
7 designee;

8 (2) the principal information technology staff  
9 person for the administrative office of the courts or the  
10 [~~director's~~] staff person's designee;

11 (3) the director of the legislative council  
12 service or the director's designee;

13 (4) one member appointed by the secretary of  
14 Indian affairs, who is experienced with cybersecurity issues;

15 (5) three members appointed by the chair of  
16 the board of directors of the New Mexico association of  
17 counties who represent county governmental agencies and who are  
18 experienced with cybersecurity issues; provided that at least  
19 one member shall represent a county other than a class A or H  
20 class county;

21 (6) three members appointed by the chair of  
22 the board of directors of the New Mexico municipal league who  
23 represent municipal governmental agencies and who are  
24 experienced with cybersecurity issues; provided that only one  
25 member may represent a home rule municipality; [~~and~~]

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1                   (7) ~~[three members appointed by the governor~~  
2 ~~who may represent separate agencies other than the department~~  
3 ~~of information technology and are experienced with~~  
4 ~~cybersecurity issues]~~ one member appointed by the governor who  
5 has experience with cybersecurity issues for public education  
6 institutions; and

7                   (8) one member appointed by the governor who  
8 has experience with cybersecurity issues for public health  
9 institutions.

10                 C. The cybersecurity advisory committee may invite  
11 representatives of unrepresented county, municipal or tribal  
12 agencies or other public entities to participate as advisory  
13 members of the committee as it determines that their  
14 participation would be useful to the deliberations of the  
15 committee.

16                 D. A meeting of and material presented to or  
17 generated by the cybersecurity advisory committee are subject  
18 to the Open Meetings Act and the Inspection of Public Records  
19 Act subject to an exception for a meeting or material  
20 concerning information that could, if made public, expose a  
21 vulnerability in:

22                   (1) an information system owned or operated by  
23 a public entity; or

24                   (2) a cybersecurity solution implemented by a  
25 public entity.

1           ~~[E. Pursuant to the Cybersecurity Act or other~~  
2 ~~statutory authority, the security officer may issue orders~~  
3 ~~regarding the compliance of agencies with guidelines or~~  
4 ~~recommendations of the cybersecurity advisory committee;~~  
5 ~~however, compliance with those guidelines or recommendations by~~  
6 ~~non-executive agencies or county, municipal or tribal~~  
7 ~~governments shall be strictly voluntary.~~

8           F.] E. The cybersecurity advisory committee shall  
9 hold its first meeting on or before August 16, 2023 and shall  
10 meet every two months at minimum after that; provided that the  
11 security officer shall have the discretion to call for more  
12 frequent meetings as circumstances warrant. At the discretion  
13 of the security officer, the committee may issue advisory  
14 reports regarding cybersecurity issues.

15           ~~[G.]~~ F. The cybersecurity advisory committee shall  
16 present a report to the legislative finance committee and the  
17 appropriate legislative interim committee concerned with  
18 information technology at those committees' November 2023  
19 meetings and to the governor by November 30, 2023 regarding the  
20 status of cybersecurity preparedness within agencies and  
21 elsewhere in the state. On or before October 30, 2024 and on  
22 or before October 30 of each subsequent year, the cybersecurity  
23 office shall present updated reports to the legislative  
24 committees and the governor. The reports to legislative  
25 committees shall be in executive session, and any materials

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1 connected with the report presentations are exempt from the  
2 Inspection of Public Records Act.

3 [H.] G. The members of the cybersecurity advisory  
4 committee shall receive no pay for their services as members of  
5 the committee, but shall be allowed per diem and mileage  
6 pursuant to the provisions of the Per Diem and Mileage Act.  
7 All per diem and contingent expenses incurred by the  
8 cybersecurity office shall be paid upon warrants of the  
9 secretary of finance and administration, supported by vouchers  
10 of the security officer."

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