

# Information Technology

**See full summary documents for additional detail**

## **Cybersecurity Support Requests – 2023 Appropriations Act.**

SL 2023-134 (H259), Sec. 19I.3

Section 19I.3 of S.L. 2023-134 requires that requests by local governments, State agencies, or critical infrastructure partners for operational support from or access to cyber resources be sent to the North Carolina Emergency Management 24-Hour Watch for intake and activation.

This section became effective October 3, 2023.

## **Statewide Elections Information Management System – 2023 Appropriations Act.**

SL 2023-134 (H259), Sec. 26.7

Section 26.7 of S.L. 2023-134 requires the State Board of Elections to use funds appropriated in this act to replace the Statewide Elections Information Management System, and requires the State Board of Elections, in consultation with the Department of Information Technology, to create and develop an initial plan to replace the Statewide Elections Information Management System and provide ongoing reports on the progress of the project.

This section became effective July 1, 2023.

## **Department of Public Safety - Information Technology Pilot Project – 2023 Appropriations Act.**

SL 2023-134 (H259), Sec. 38.4

Section 38.4 of S.L. 2023-134 directs the State Highway Patrol, the State Bureau of Investigation, and the Division of Emergency Management to initiate a pilot project where those divisions are deemed separate, stand-alone entities in all matters related to information technology.

Section 38.4 of S.L. 2023-134 became effective July 1, 2023, and expires on June 30, 2025.

## **Cybersecurity Pilot Program – 2023 Appropriations Act.**

SL 2023-134 (H259), Sec. 38.5

Section 38.5 of S.L. 2023-134 requires the Information Technology Innovation Center to reopen the proposal period for the program and project management improvement pilot program, established in S.L. 2020-81, to allow for additional offerings not awarded in the original pilot program and must select additional vendors to enhance the pilot program. The first selection must be completed by December 31, 2023. The Information Technology Innovation Center must

submit a report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on the proposal process and the selection of participating vendors on or before January 31, 2024.

This section became effective July 1, 2023.

### **Completing Access to Broadband Eligibility Expansion – 2023 Appropriations Act.**

SL 2023-134 (H259), Sec. 38.7

Section 38.7 of S.L. 2023-134 provides that a county is ineligible to receive a grant from the Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) Fund if it: 1) is designated as a Tier 3 area by the Department of Commerce for the 2023 calendar year; and 2) has utilized federal funds for broadband infrastructure projects on or after May 1, 2021.

This section became effective July 1, 2023.

### **Broadband Changes – 2023 Appropriations Act.**

SL 2023-134 (H259), Sec. 38.8

Section 38.8 of S.L. 2023-134 makes various changes to the laws that relate to broadband deployment and the Department of Information Technology (DIT), which include:

- Broadening the stated purpose of the Broadband Stop Gap Solutions grant program to include expanding broadband service to unserved and underserved businesses, State facilities, and community anchor institutions.
- Revising provisions related to the amount of federal funds received under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58) that DIT can use for administrative and planning purposes.
- Allowing the Information Technology Strategy Board to elect the chair from among its membership for one-year terms.
- Directing DIT to develop a formal challenge process for broadband grant programs it administers, and to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division on the challenge process no later than December 1, 2023.

This section became effective July 1, 2023.

## **Department of Information Technology Procurement Changes – Regulatory Reform Act of 2023.**

SL 2023-137 (H600), Sec. 34

Section 34 allows the Department of Information Technology's procurement activities, including but not limited to the Statewide Information technology Procurement Office, to be funded through a combination of administrative fees as part of the IT Supplemental Staffing contract, as well as fees charged to agencies using their services.

This bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 2, 2023, and that veto was overridden by the General Assembly on October 10, 2023. This section became effective on October 10, 2023.

## **Commercial Mobile Radio Service Changes – Regulatory Reform Act of 2023.**

SL 2023-137 (H600), Sec. 49

Section 49 of S.L. 2023-137 eliminates an alternative criteria triggering a requirement that commercial mobile radio service providers receive prior approval from the 911 Board for invoices for reimbursement, and makes some technical changes.

This bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 2, 2023, and that veto was overridden by the General Assembly on October 10, 2023. This section became effective on October 10, 2023. The technical changes will become effective July 1, 2024.