

HOUSE BILL 812: Grant Recipients Posted on Grantor Web Site

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Jennifer Mundt
Analysis of:	S.L. 2015-114		Legislative Analyst

SUMMARY: S.L. 2015-114 amends the law that authorizes NC OpenBook, the State's searchable Web site on spending for grants and contracts, to ensure that information on grant funds awarded by State agencies is readily available on the agencies' Web sites. The act also directs the State Chief Information Officer to ensure that the information is displayed on all agency Web sites in a consistent and accessible manner by December 31, 2015.

This act became effective June 24, 2015.

PRIOR LAW: The Office of State Budget and Management, with support from the Office of Information Technology Services, maintains a database and website which provides a single searchable site on State spending on grants and contracts, known as NC OpenBook.

Under prior law, the heads of the principal departments of State government are required to conduct a monthly review of all the grants and contracts administered by their departments. The principal departments are the Governor's cabinet agencies and the Community College System. In addition, all State government entities that are subject to the authority of the Director of the Budget and have a website are required to include an access link to the NC OpenBook website on their home page.

BILL ANALYSIS: S.L. 2015-114 amends the law to require that all State institutions, departments, bureaus, agencies, or commissions conduct a review of their State grants and contracts, not just the principal departments, and changes the frequency of that review to a quarterly review instead of a monthly review.

Section 2 of the act directs the State Chief Information Officer to ensure that information on grants and contracts is displayed in a consistent and accessible manner on all State entity websites by December 31, 2015. The State Chief Information Officer is also directed to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and the Fiscal Research Division before August 1, 2015, on a timeline for implementing the act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act became effective June 24, 2015.

Karen Cochrane-Brown and Susan Sitze, Staff Attorneys, substantially contributed to this summary.

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This bill analysis was prepared by the nonpartisan legislative staff for the use of legislators in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.