



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

SENATE BILL 284: County Cybersec./Satellite Broadband Grants.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Appropriations	Date:	June 21, 2020
Introduced by:	Sen. Hise	Prepared by:	Matthew Meinig Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition S284-CSMQa-23		

OVERVIEW: *The PCS to Senate Bill 284 would (i) create a pilot program within the Information Technology Innovation Center, housed within the Department of Information Technology (DIT), to utilize public-private partnerships to provide comprehensive cybersecurity support services to development tier one and two counties; (ii) create a pilot program within DIT to implement a program management enhancement program; (iii) establish the Satellite-based Broadband Grant Program in DIT to provide grants to satellite-based broadband providers based upon maintaining new, unserved households as subscribers; (iv) create a time limitation for State agency determination for new leases and lease renewals for colocation, installation, and operation of equipment by a broadband provider on State property and instruct agencies to coordinate with DIT to develop a streamlined process to expedite the finalization of lease agreements; and (v) appropriate funding to DIT for cybersecurity projects and satellite-based broadband grants.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

- Section 1 of the PCS would create a pilot program in the Department of Information Technology's Information Technology Information Center (Center). The pilot program would establish public-private partnerships to provide comprehensive cybersecurity support services to development tier one and tier two counties. Participating vendors must meet a variety of service, compliance, oversight, and compatibility requirements. The Center is required to develop criteria for eligible counties to participate and must submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and Fiscal Research.
- Section 2 directs the Department of Information Technology (Department) to create a pilot program to improve program and project management in the Department. The pilot project would do the following:
 - Require the Department to adopt and implement mandatory standards, in accordance with nationally accredited standards, for program and project management.
 - Establish a 5-year strategic plan for program and project management in the Department.
 - Create a Program Management Improvement Director to implement policies and develop written strategies to train and mentor employees, develop resources and tools, and disseminate best practices for program and project management throughout the agency.
 - Within 270 days, issue regulations for the program and project management program, including skill development and certification requirements for program managers.

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- Require a report on the pilot project no later than July 1, 2021 to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and Fiscal Research.
- Section 3 would establish the Satellite-based Broadband Grant Program within the Department of Information Technology. The Program would provide grants to providers of satellite-based broadband service that provide access to unserved households in the State. A grantee would receive a maximum of \$500 for each subscribing household over a two-year period. The grant program would allow for a maximum aggregate grant total of \$4,000,000 for all grants, and no more than \$1,000,000 in grants during the 2020 calendar year, and afterward, no more than \$2,500,000 in any calendar year. Grantees must agree to provide broadband service to the area for a minimum of five years and must offer the minimum download and upload speeds and subscription cost identified in the grant application for that five-year period.
- Section 4 would do the following:
 - Give the Department of Administration (Department) and any controlling agencies a total of four months from receipt of a new lease application to prepare the complete application package. If an agreement is not finalized during that timeframe, the Department shall enter into a lease agreement with the applicant according to the terms submitted in the application.
 - Give the Department two months to prepare and finalize a lease agreement for renewals of leases. If an agreement is not finalized during that timeframe, the terms of the current lease agreement shall continue until the lease renewal is finalized.
 - Instruct the Department to coordinate with the Department of Information Technology to develop a streamlined lease development process, using state-of-the-art technology, including video conferencing to facilitate and expedite the lease process. Additionally, State agencies are instructed to cooperate in the streamlined lease development process to ensure lease processing timelines are met.
- Section 5 would utilize an intended transfer of portion of nonrecurring funds to the IT Reserve Fund, totaling \$12,250,000, and appropriate them to the Department of Information Technology to be used as follows:
 - \$2,500,000 for the cybersecurity pilot program described in Section 1 of the PCS.
 - \$3,250,000 to Gaston College to found the Carolina Cyber Network, of which Gaston College may use up to \$250,000 for administration of the Cyber Network.
 - \$5,500,000 to the Department for Statewide cybersecurity enhancements.
 - \$1,000,000 to the Department for the Satellite-based Broadband Grant Program described in Section 3 of the PCS.
- Section 6 contains boilerplate language providing that (i) the State Budget Act is not superseded by this act and (ii) other bills enacted during the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly appropriating funds remain in effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The PCS would become effective July 1, 2020.