HCS HB 1432 -- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN MISSOURI

SPONSOR: Berry

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Innovation and Technology by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Administrative Oversight Committee by a vote of 14 to 0.

This bill requires all contracts entered into for state purchasing and printing to include a provision mandating that all state contractors use software that will ensure that the hours billed for work under the contract are legitimate. Data collected by the software shall be maintained by the contractor for seven years.

This bill also consolidates all state-owned data centers into the Information Technology Services Division State Data Center within the Office of Administration by October 1, 2019.

The Office of Administration is required to implement a statewide video project in all departments using the departments' travel budget in order to phase in video conferencing and phase out physical meetings and travel.

The bill establishes the "Statewide Video Purchase Fund." From the 2019 fiscal year budget, 5% of each department's expended 2017 travel dollars, as defined in the bill, will be transferred to the fund for the purchase of video hardware, software, infrastructure, and employees to support video meetings.

The Commissioner of Administration and the State Treasurer are required to begin a review process to replace the Statewide Advantage for Missouri (SAM II) system with a new enterprise resource planner. The commissioner and treasurer are required to propose language for a Request for Proposal (RFP) by November 1, 2018. The commissioner is required to release the RFP for a new enterprise resource planner by January 1, 2019.

Additionally, the commissioner must maintain a contract for the purchase of all computer hardware, software, and services, including installation, application development, and data analytics services, as defined in the bill. Required terms of the contract are specified in the bill. Any RFP for the contract cannot exceed 30% of total points available in scoring the RFP.

All state agencies are required to utilize data services to address the volume of both structured and unstructured data that is too large to process using traditional database and software techniques, and are required to share data with other state departments to eliminate data silos. Confidential information that is mined will be redacted, and questions of possible incidents of fraud will be turned over to law enforcement or anti-fraud entities.

If there is an interdepartmental disagreement on whether data can be shared, either the commissioner or the Attorney General shall make the final determination, in writing.

The position of State Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) is created within the Office of Administration, to work closely with the commissioner to originate new ideas and also to recognize innovative ideas generated by other people.

The commissioner and CIO will determine whether a state employee receives a traditional desktop computer or a virtual desktop for their work, paid for by the employing state agency. If a traditional desktop computer is received, the employing state agency is required to pay for all support costs.

The state CIO must develop a statewide enterprise plan and solution for video security camera hardware and software installation, usage, and support. The Director of Facilities Management must implement the plan.

The process and requirements for issuing and accepting an RFP or a Request For Information (RFI) related to technology purchasing are specified in the bill.

The commissioner is required to use products and services that are Internet based and provide shared processing resources and data to computers and other devices on demand. The commissioner also is required to establish a program that allows political subdivisions to store their data in the state's data center and to receive appropriate services from the data center at a cost determined by the commissioner.

The bill repeals a provision that prohibits sheriffs, marshals, and other officers in St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis from charging for their services rendered in cases disposed of by a violation bureau established under law or supreme court rule.

The Missouri Data Exchange System (MODEX) fund is authorized to accept funds from federal, state, local, and private entities that utilize the information from MODEX to fight fraud and other activities in the best interest of law enforcement, state government, or the taxpayers of Missouri. Any information in MODEX that is open under the provisions of Chapter 610, RSMo, is considered open and cannot be considered criminal records information. Any information in MODEX will be shared with any other law enforcement or anti-fraud unit.

This bill is similar to HB 947 (2017).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill consolidates state data storage and maintenance facilities in order to capitalize on efficiencies and economies of scale. Video conferencing, rather than state sponsored travel, is far more cost efficient and productive for state employees. Many executive state agencies are refusing to adopt modern technological innovations.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Berry; Richard Mcintosh, and David Steward.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that requiring the judiciary to consolidate its data centers with the executive branch will generate separation of powers issues, and may impede the ability for Missouri attorneys to innovate. The judiciary has already adopted numerous technological innovations including Casenet and E-filing.

Testifying against the bill was Eric Jennings, Board of Governors of The Missouri Bar.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that consolidating data centers may inadvertently increase costs since it will create an additional layer of administration that will be needed to address the varying data needs of multiple agencies. State agencies are already reducing their data infrastructure requirements.

Testifying on the bill were Missouri Dept Conservation; Office of Administration; and Todd Larivie, Missouri Department of Conservation.