Summary of Legislation
2024

Information Technology

During the 2024 legislative session, the General Assembly considered several measures related to Information Technology (IT), including addressing Artificial Intelligence (AI); life-cycle IT, and IT systems improvement.

Artificial Intelligence and Biometrics

The Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) defines AI as advanced analysis and logic based techniques, such as machine learning, deep learning, regression analysis and prescriptive analytics to identify and predict patterns, self-learn and make/execute decisions.

Artificial Intelligence Impact Task Force. Previously known as the Task Force for the Consideration of Facial Recognition Services House Bill 24-1468 renames the committee to Artificial Intelligence Impact Task Force. Additionally, the bill updates issues of study for the task force to include a broad approach to AI, automated design systems, and biometric technology. The task force is required to submit a report to the Joint Technology Committee by February 1, 2025 summarizing the findings of the task force.

Consumer Protections. Senate Bill 24-205 provides regulatory guidelines for AI systems. Risk management strategies, impact assessments, and annual reviews are required to protect against algorithmic discrimination by any high-risk AI system. Additional requirements include a public statement describing the types of systems deployed and any known risks as well as notifying consumers of AI being used for certain decisions.

IT Systems

Improving IT systems of state agencies and state institutions of higher education has been a focus of the General Assembly, primarily through the Joint Technology Committee, which makes recommendations on IT Capitol projects.

Life-cycle IT. IT systems at, or close to, end of life functionality is known as "tech debt". Starting in FY 2024-25, Senate Bill 24-224 requires appropriations for IT capital projects to include an amount to cover estimated annual depreciation-lease equivalent (ADLE) payments.

Additionally, the bill requires OIT to promulgate rules to establish a technology life-cycle plan by December 31, 2024. OIT will annually report the amount of ADLE payments for the following year's budget and the state of 'tech debt'.

Improving Security. The Department of Higher Education's (DHE) network systems were targeted by a ransomware attack on July 19, 2023. The attack led to additional funds and staff for remediation. House Bill 24-1402 requires OIT to conduct an analysis of the department's IT systems to determine possibility of consolidation with OIT for IT functions of DHE.