

ASSEMBLY, No. 5575

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 5, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Information Technology Commission.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/5/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the State's technology infrastructure and
2 establishing a "New Jersey Information Technology
3 Commission."

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. a. There is established in, but not of, the Department of State
9 a commission to be known as the "New Jersey Information
10 Technology Commission." The commission shall be independent of
11 any supervision or control by the department except as expressly
12 authorized under this act.

13 b. The commission shall consist of 11 members as follows:

14 (1) one representative each, appointed by the Governor, from the
15 New Jersey Institute of Technology, Montclair State University,
16 Ramapo College of New Jersey, Rowan University, Rutgers
17 University, The College of New Jersey, and William Paterson
18 University; and

19 (2) four public members to be appointed, one each, by the Senate
20 President, Minority Leader of the Senate, Speaker of the General
21 Assembly, and Minority Leader of the General Assembly.

22 Each member of the committee shall have experience in
23 information technology, big data, or cybersecurity.

24 c. The members of the commission shall be appointed and shall
25 hold their initial organizational meeting within 45 days after the
26 effective date of this act. At the initial organizational meeting, the
27 members shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among
28 the members of the commission by a majority vote. The commission
29 may appoint a secretary, who need not be a member of the
30 commission.

31 d. Members of the commission shall serve without
32 compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary and reasonable
33 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties within the limits
34 of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the commission
35 for its purposes.

36 e. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be
37 filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was
38 made.

39 f. It shall be the duty of the commission, in consultation with
40 the Office of Information Technology and Chief Technology Officer,
41 to:

42 (1) evaluate the efficiency and security of the current technology
43 infrastructure of each State agency;

44 (2) study potential technology upgrades to the computer systems,
45 networks, and software and hardware programs across each State
46 agency; and

1 (3) provide recommendations on how each State agency can
2 improve and modernize its technology infrastructure.

3 For the purposes of this subsection, “State agency” means any of
4 the principal departments in the Executive Branch of the State
5 Government, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission, or
6 other instrumentality within or created by such department, and any
7 independent State authority, commission, instrumentality, or agency.

8 g. The commission shall be entitled to call to its assistance and
9 avail itself of the services of the officials and employees of the State
10 and its political subdivisions and their departments, boards, bureaus,
11 commissions, and agencies as it may require and as may be available
12 to it for the purposes of the commission. The Department of State
13 shall provide staff support services to the commission.

14 h. The commission shall report its findings, conclusions, and
15 recommendations to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of
16 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature no later than one
17 year following the first meeting of the commission. The commission
18 shall expire upon the submission of its report, pursuant to this
19 section.

20
21 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire after
22 the commission submits its findings and recommendations to the
23 Governor and the Legislature.

24 25 26 STATEMENT

27
28 This bill establishes a “New Jersey Information Technology
29 Commission” in, but not of, the Department of State.

30 Under the bill, the commission would consist of 11 members as
31 follows:

32 (1) one representative each, appointed by the Governor, from the
33 New Jersey Institute of Technology, Montclair State University,
34 Ramapo College of New Jersey, Rowan University, Rutgers
35 University, The College of New Jersey, and William Paterson
36 University; and

37 (2) four public members to be appointed, one each, by the Senate
38 President, Minority Leader of the Senate, Speaker of the General
39 Assembly, and Minority Leader of the General Assembly.

40 The bill also requires that each member of the committee have
41 experience in information technology, big data, or cybersecurity.

42 Under the bill, the purpose of the commission would be to, in
43 consultation with the Office of Information Technology and Chief
44 Technology Officer:

45 (1) evaluate the efficiency and security of the current technology
46 infrastructure of each State agency;

1 (2) study potential technology upgrades to the computer systems,
2 networks, and software and hardware programs across each State
3 agency; and

4 (3) provide recommendations on how each State agency can
5 improve and modernize its technology infrastructure.

6 The commission is tasked with reporting its findings, conclusions,
7 and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature. The
8 commission would expire upon the submission of its report.