

CHAPTER 76

AN ACT directing the Chief Technology Officer in the Office of Information Technology to study and report on the potential benefits of expanding the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record by the State.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. a. As used in this section:

“Electronic signature” means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

“Electronic record” means a record created, generated, sent, communicated, received, or stored by electronic means.

“Office of Information Technology” means the Office of Information Technology established by section 9 of P.L.2007, c.56 (C.52:18A-227) in but not of the Department of the Treasury.

b. The Chief Technology Officer in the Office of Information Technology shall conduct a study and prepare and submit, within six months of the effective date of this act, to the Governor and both houses of the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), the Chair of the Senate Commerce Committee, and the Chair of the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, or the respective successor committees, as appropriate, a report in electronic form, which shall make findings and recommendations concerning the potential benefits of expanding the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record by the State.

c. The report shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

(1) An analysis of information obtained from users of the State government computer systems, including citizens, State agencies, universities, community colleges, local education agencies, and other units of local government. The information shall pertain to the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record.

(2) Specific proposals that would, if implemented, expand the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record in State government, and which shall include the establishment of an ongoing function within State government to execute the expansion. The proposals shall address the feasibility of expanding activities involving the use of electronic transaction, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record, that are suitable for utilization within the State government computer systems, as well as those activities suitable for governmental entities to pursue independently. The proposals shall also include information concerning expected costs and benefits of such expansion; recommendations for funding recurring and nonrecurring costs of the specific proposals; and a model to support the proposals.

(3) An evaluation of the opportunities for efficiencies and potential cost savings in State government through the expanded use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record.

(4) An assessment of opportunities for the State to obtain federal and local support to further implement the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record.

(5) Proposed legislation that may be considered by the Legislature to ensure implementation by the State agencies.

(6) Any other information deemed relevant to the subject matter of the report.

P.L.2010, CHAPTER 76

2

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on the 30th day following submission of the report required to be prepared under section 1 of this act.

Approved September 10, 2010.