



House Bill 6607

An Act Incentivizing the Adoption of Cybersecurity Standards for Businesses

Testimony of the Department of Administrative Services

Joint Committee on Commerce

March 18, 2021

Good morning Senator Hartley, Representative Simmons, Senator Martin, Representative Buckbee and distinguished members of the Commerce Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit informational testimony regarding the Committee's effort to improve cybersecurity at private sector businesses, as set forth in House Bill 6607.

House Bill 6607 would incentivize the adoption of cybersecurity standards for businesses by allowing businesses that adopt certain cybersecurity framework to plead an affirmative defense to any cause of action that alleges that a failure to implement reasonable cybersecurity controls resulted in a data breach concerning personal or restricted information.

The Administration feels this is an important issue and is generally supportive of encouraging businesses to continue improving their cybersecurity posture. In reviewing the bill, we have identified several technical questions and suggestions, and we would appreciate the opportunity to be engaged in further conversation on this topic should the bill move forward. The Department of Administrative Services is the lead state agency for IT and cybersecurity and has expertise on matters covered in this bill, though the Department does not directly regulate or advise private sector businesses on such matters.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. We look forward to working with the Committee to address this issue.