



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Forty-ninth Legislature, First Regular Session

PROGRAM PRESENTATION
Government Information Technology Agency

Background

The Legislature established the Government Information Technology Agency (GITA) in 1996 to develop, implement and maintain a coordinated statewide plan for information technology (IT) (A.R.S. § 41-3504).

Statute requires the statewide plan for IT to include:

- 1) statewide technical, coordination and security standards for IT.
- 2) a statewide coordinator for IT resources.
- 3) a statewide disaster recovery plan.
- 4) a list of approved agency projects by priority category.
- 5) a list of IT assets owned, leased or employed by the state.

GITA is also tasked with the approval of IT projects with development costs that exceed \$25,000 and may suspend expenditures on failing projects. GITA also provides staff support to the Information Technology Authorization Committee (ITAC).

ITAC consists of the following 15 members:

- 1) one member of the House of Representatives who is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and serves as an advisory member.
- 2) one member of the Senate who is appointed by the President of the Senate and serves as an advisory member.
- 3) four members from private industry who are appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate approval.
- 4) one local government member and one federal government member who are appointed by the Governor.
- 5) two members who are directors of state agencies and who are appointed by the Governor.
- 6) the Administrative Director of the Courts or the Director's designee.
- 7) the Director of GITA who serves as a nonvoting Chairperson.
- 8) two members from either private industry or state government who are appointed by the Governor.
- 9) the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) or the Director's designee.

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ITAC is required to review all statewide information technology standards and the statewide IT plan and to approve all proposed IT projects that exceed a total cost of \$1 million. ITAC also monitors the progress of IT projects and may temporarily suspend the expenditure of monies on projects that ITAC determines are at risk of failing to achieve their intended results or for failing to comply with state requirements.

In January of 2003, the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) reported on a completed performance audit titled *GITA's State-Wide Technology Contracting Issues* (Report No. 03-01). The report detailed problems with recent procurements and identified nine audit recommendations designed to improve GITA's performance. As of April 19, 2005, all remaining relevant audit recommendations had been implemented or were in the process of implementation.

In 2005, a sunset review of GITA and ITAC was completed by the OAG (Report No. 05-03) resulting in 19 audit recommendations. After hearing the sunset review, the Senate Government and House of Representatives Government Reform and Government Finance Accountability Committees of Reference recommended that GITA be continued for ten years.

In 2007, the Legislature created the Statewide Information Security and Privacy Office (SISPO) within GITA (A.R.S. § 41-3507). SISPO is managed by the Statewide Chief Information Security Officer who is appointed by the Director of GITA. SISPO is required to develop, implement, maintain and ensure compliance with a coordinated statewide assurance plan for information security and privacy. In the event of a security breach, SISPO may temporarily suspend operation of a state budget unit's information infrastructure in order to isolate the source of, or stop the spread of, the security breach.

Fiscal Information

According to JLBC, the FY 2008-2009 budget provides GITA's operating budget \$7,844,500 and 24 FTE positions. This amount consists of \$2,844,500 from the Information Technology Fund and \$5,000,000 from the State Web Portal Fund.

The Information Technology Fund was established for use by GITA and ITAC and is derived from a .2 percent on state agency payrolls (A.R.S. § 41-3505).

The State Web Portal Fund was established for expanding the state's information technology services and projects and is derived from:

- 1) web portal usage fees collected under any agreement between Arizona and an independent contractor providing services for the common web portal less the contractor's price of maintaining and operating the web portal.
- 2) monies received from private grants.
- 3) monies received from the Federal Government (A.R.S. § 41-3506).

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The FY 2008-2009 budget provided GITA with state General Fund monies for the following special line items:

- 1) \$1,400,000 for the E-Health Initiative to provide IT grants for rural health care providers. These grants fund the Rural Health Information Technology Adoption Grant Program, which promotes the development of Health Information Exchange among medical providers serving rural Arizona.
- 2) \$1,175,300 for the state's 2-1-1 program. The 2-1-1 program provides referrals to available health and human services programs in Arizona and can also be used to communicate updates during emergencies.
- 3) \$880,600 for the Public Safety Communications Program, which designs and implements a standard based system that provides interoperability between statewide public safety agencies.

Attachments

- 1) JLBC Budget Information
- 2) December 19, 2005 Sunset Review Report
- 3) June 2005 Auditor General Report Highlights
- 4) July 18, 2007 24-Month Follow-up by Auditor General

Prepared by Senate Research
January 14, 2009
BB/jas