

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A STATEWIDE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

Sec. X. (NEW) (*Effective July 1,, 2020*) (a) (1) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall convene a working group to conduct a study of the need for and feasibility of establishing a centralized, coordinated statewide Geographic Information System (GIS) for Connecticut, including, but not limited to:

- (A) a base mapping program to acquire, create and provide a framework of foundational basemap layers including aerial imagery, planimetric features, and elevation;
- (B) creation and adoption of data standards to be implemented and required by all data creators, making it possible to aggregate layers across geographic boundaries within the State;
- (C) collection, creation and maintenance of authoritative data layers;
- (D) a central data repository where authoritative data layers can be accessed by and distributed to any interested party, in accordance with the Connecticut State Data Plan.

(2) The study shall include:

- (A) An examination of existing GIS expertise and repositories across the state of Connecticut including state agencies, universities, regional councils of governments, public utilities, municipalities, and others;
- (B) An examination of GIS centers, policy, and resources in other New England states including how each state's GIS is structured, staffed and funded;
- (C) Recommendations for creating, operating, staffing, and funding a centralized, coordinated state GIS Center.

(3) Such working group shall consist of the following members, with the ability to create sub-committees containing representatives beyond those on the working group, who shall be appointed by the designated official no later than sixty (60) days after the effective date of this section:

- (A) The secretary or the secretary's designee;

(B) A minimum of three representatives from different Connecticut state agencies with GIS expertise and need, such as, but not limited to the Office of Policy and Management, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Department of Public Health to be appointed by the Commissioner of the relevant agency at the request of the secretary;

(C) Two representatives from different Councils of Government (COGs) with expertise in GIS; aerial imagery acquisition and providing GIS information to member municipalities, to be appointed by the Connecticut Association of Councils of Government;

(D) Two representative from municipal government with GIS experience and expertise who are members of the CT GIS Network, to be appointed by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities;

(E) One representative from the University of Connecticut with experience in serving the states geospatial information including statewide aerial imagery and elevation to multiple audiences, to be appointed by the University of Connecticut President;

(F) Two representatives from the private sector with expertise in mapping applications for business, to be appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Planning & Development Committee; and

(G), One representative from a public utility, to be appointed by the Commissioner of Public Utility Control

(4) Not later than July 1, 2021, the secretary shall submit a report regarding the outcome and recommendations of the working group, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes.