



LFC Requester: Hilla

**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
BILL ANALYSIS  
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Check all that apply:

Original  Amendment   
Correction  Substitute

Date Prepared: 02/20 /25

Bill No: [SB254/SRCS](#)

**Agency Name and Code:** PED - 924

**Sponsor:** Padilla

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**Short Title:** CYBERSECURITY ACT &  
OFFICE CHANGES

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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
None	None	N/A	NFA

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	None	None	None	None	N/A	NFA

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: House Bill 2 proposes appropriations of:

- approximately \$6.5 million from the general fund to the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) for their cybersecurity program;
- \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Administrative Office of the Courts to upgrade cybersecurity tools, contingent upon compliance with DoIT's minimum

- cybersecurity standards; and
- \$20 million from the general fund to DoIT for cybersecurity initiatives including those for public schools, with expenditure extended through FY26.

### **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

#### **BILL SUMMARY**

**Synopsis of SRC Substitute:** The Senate Rules Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 254 (SB254/SRCS) proposes to define “state-operated or state-owned telecommunications network” for clarity, as that term was undefined in the originally proposed version of the bill. The committee substitute also modifies the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee by revising the experience requirements for the appointee from the Chief Justice of the state Supreme Court and requiring the Governor to consult with the Secretary of Information Technology and State Chief Information Security Officer in appointing four members of the committee to satisfy any federal or state cybersecurity grand funding requirements.

The bill does not provide an effective date. Laws go into effect 90 days after the adjournment of the Legislature enacting them unless a later date is specified. If enacted, this bill would become effective June 20, 2025.

#### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

SB254/SRCS does not contain an appropriation.

The change in scope of the Office of Cybersecurity’s duties from the development of minimum cybersecurity controls for managing and protecting information for “agency-owned or -operated” telecommunications networks to “state-owned or -operated networks,” where that term means, “controlled by the Department of Information Technology,” would greatly limit the effect of that requirement, and reduce any related expenditures, as “agency” in the Cybersecurity Act is defined to mean, “executive cabinet agencies and their administratively attached agencies, offices, boards and commissions.”

#### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

The bill would limit the scope of the Office of Cybersecurity’s responsibilities and oversight to networks operated by DoIT. While the membership of the proposed Cybersecurity Advisory Council would be amended to include an appointee who is an educator or employed by and education institution, the bill’s provisions do not apply to K-12 education.

#### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None for the Public Education Department.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Relates to:

- House Bill 20, Technology and Innovation Division, which proposes to create that division within EDD, and whose duties include addressing certain “target sectors” which are defined to include cybersecurity.
- House Bill 60, which proposes the Artificial Intelligence Act.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

None.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

None.

## **AMENDMENTS**

None.