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Texas Cybersecurity Act Passes House; Plan to Secure Citizen Data Closer to Completion

AUSTIN – Today, the Texas House of Representatives passed HB 8 – the Texas Cybersecurity Act – which calls for a review of the state’s cybersecurity protocols, better security measures to lock down sensitive data, and provides for more accountability with the management of Texas’ cyber infrastructure.

The bill’s author, Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake, said "I am proud my House colleagues have agreed that more can be done to protect the private citizen data entrusted to our state agencies. It is vitally important that we do so. I am confident the Senate will share our opinion."

Recommendations in the legislation include: a comprehensive study on state agency data storage and records management practices, with the associated costs to the state; agency heads and their chief information security officers will be required to develop, approve, and sign off on each agency’s information security plan and strategy to address risk; data security plans for online and mobile applications must be considered and implemented; and, individual-identifying information, that is not required to be retained, must be destroyed.

“The TBLC has worked with Capitol leadership to prioritize cybersecurity preparedness. We believe that our no-cost and low-cost recommendations will better protect us from a breach.” said Justin Yancy, president of the TBLC. “We look forward to working with the Senate as the bill moves through the process.”

The Texas Business Leadership Council is a network of Texas based CEOs and senior business executives who advance a long-term vision of a prosperous Texas in a globally competitive business environment.

[Justin Yancy](#) is the president of the Texas Business Leadership Council.

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