Making Cents of New Cyber Funding
✓ Cyber funding outline
✓ Key resources to reach out to
✓ Whole of State governance
✓ Ongoing discussions
Subtitle B—State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act

SEC. 70611. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act”.

SEC. 70612. STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 2218. STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.
Grant Program Statute Overview

- State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program
  - Federally funded for State or Tribal governments
  - 1 Billion in guaranteed appropriations over 4 years
    (FY22-23 ... $200M, $400M, $300M, $100M)
  - DHS/CISA is the Program Executive
  - Funds to be administered to States or Tribes
  - For States:
    - Must have a Cybersecurity Planning Committee
      - Statute has requirements for its composition
      - DHS/CISA can add others if desired
    - 80% of funding must go to or with consent be used for the benefit of local entities.
    - 25% of funding must go to or with consent be used for the benefit of rural entities.
    - Limitations on the Federal share
    - 5% allowable for program costs
Why should YOU care?

• This is somewhat historic Federal action
  • Leveraging states to administer, requiring local/rural benefit, multi-year...
• The statute contemplates extending the program beyond 2025
• States may not have an existing plan or a planning committee in place
• We can ALL help:
  • What are best practices in state cybersecurity plan/committee development?
  • What are best practices in state-wide (whole-of-state) security activities?
  • What are states doing that they can learn from?
  • What aren’t states doing that they should be to benefit from the grant program?
  • Who in your state is actively working on this issue and what do they need from you?
So, What Should States be Doing NOW?

- While awaiting the DHS/CISA Notice of Funding Opportunity...
  - Planning Committee Development:
    - Evaluate existing or form a qualifying state cybersecurity planning committee
    - Leverage state, county, city, town, school, and public health associations to engage all voices
    - Ensure your State CIO/CISO is coordinating with your State Administrative Agency
  - Plan Development...What can or should be done?
    - Look at other state activities/best practices for how to form a committee/develop as a plan
    - Use participation in assessments (like the Nationwide Cybersecurity Review) to identify gaps
    - Leverage the MS-ISAC and DHS/CISA subject-matter expertise to identify free capabilities

- For more information:
  - https://www.cisecurity.org/insights
  - https://learn.cisecurity.org/SLTT-Input-to-State-and-Local-Cybersecurity-Grant-Program
  - https://www.cisecurity.org/insights/white-papers/managing-cyber-threats-through-effective-governance

- Speaking of what states are doing as a best practice...
Whole of State Governance

Local governments (counties, cities, K-12, tribal govt)

Critical infrastructure (water, utilities, etc.)

State government agencies (including national guard)

Education (partner universities/workforce development support)

Private sector (cyber industry)
Key aspects of a Whole of State approach

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT, CLEARLY DEFINED ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

IDENTIFY  PROTECT  DETECT  RESPOND  RECOVER

BROAD, STATEWIDE ENGAGEMENT
Whole of State
How legislators can support

**Community leaders**
Legislators can provide a unique spotlight on the issue of cybersecurity, especially as they have a special connection with their communities to communicate resources available and opportunities to get support.

**Accountability**
Ensure a regular reporting structure on the progress being made on the cyber plan, and other cyber initiatives in your state.

**Funding**
Ensure there is ample funding for local governments, as well as for state agencies working on cybersecurity. And that positions are competitive with the industry.
Ongoing discussions

✓ April 14 – Pennsylvania Model
✓ May 12 – New York Model
✓ June 14/July 14 – TBD