OLR Bill Analysis
sSB 1103

AN ACT CONCERNING INTERAGENCY DATA SHARING.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary to designate an existing, or hire a new, agency attorney to report and provide assistance to its Chief Data Officer (CDO). It requires the CDO, in consultation with the attorney general (AG), to review legal obstacles to sharing executive branch agencies’ “high value data” and develop a plan to facilitate data sharing among agencies and with the public (see BACKGROUND). The bill also requires the AG to assist the CDO with (1) legal issues relating to state data management and (2) staff support, within available appropriations, in state data plan projects.

Finally, the bill formalizes the process by which the Connecticut Data Analysis Technology Advisory Board may obtain (1) administrative staff support from the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee and (2) assistance as needed from the offices of Legislative Research (OLR) and Fiscal Analysis (OFA).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019, except the provisions concerning the high value data inventory and plan are effective upon passage.

REVIEW OF DATA SHARING LEGAL OBSTACLES

The bill requires the CDO, in consultation with the AG, to (1) conduct a comprehensive review of the legal obstacles to sharing executive agencies’ inventoried high value data among agencies and with the public and (2) develop a facilitation plan for sharing such data to the extent permitted by state and federal law. The plan must include a schedule for preparing and executing memoranda of understanding among state agencies, as necessary, which the CDO and AG must implement.
By January 1, 2020, the bill requires the CDO to submit a report with any findings based upon the review, including any recommendations for necessary legislation, to the Connecticut Data Analysis Technology Advisory Board and the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

**DATA ADVISORY BOARD ASSISTANCE**

Current law designates the GAE committee clerk to staff the Connecticut Data Analysis Technology Advisory Board, with assistance as needed provided by employees of OLR and OFA. The bill requires the board to formally request such assistance by (1) a board vote or (2) the request of any of its eight voting members.

**BACKGROUND**

*Chief Data Officer Duties*

By law, the CDO is responsible for creating the state data plan, and in accordance with the plan, (1) directing executive branch agencies, except the Board of Regents for higher education, on the use and management of data to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of state programs and policies; (2) facilitating the sharing and use of executive branch agency data between such agencies and with the public; and (3) coordinating data analytics and transparency master planning for executive branch agencies (CGS § 4-67p).

*High Value Data*

By law, high value data is any data that the department head determines:

1. can increase an agency's accountability and responsiveness, improve public knowledge of an agency and its operations, further its core mission, or create economic opportunity;

2. is critical to the agency's operation or used to satisfy any legislative or other reporting requirements; or

3. is frequently requested by the public or responds to a need and demand identified through public consultation (CGS § 4-67o).
COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea  16  Nay  0  (03/29/2019)