HB 2049

Whether you are an individual, school, business, or government entity, you most likely rely on computer systems every day. There is a rise in the use of cloud services and a proliferation of Internet of Things (IoT), which creates a myriad of security vulnerabilities that didn't exist a few decades ago. Pair this with a large and growing gap in the cybersecurity workforce and a dramatic rise in the number of cybercrime incidents, and we have an urgent problem on our hands. The state of Oregon must act now so that public and private entities alike have a path to be protected and recover from cyber-attacks. HB 2049 will help with that.

Overview of HB 2049

Creation of the Cybersecurity Center of Excellence: HB 2049 will establish an Oregon Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (CCOE) at Portland State University, charged with coordinating funding, and providing cybersecurity workforce development, education, awareness and training for public, private and nonprofit sector organizations. The CCOE will facilitate cybersecurity-related goods and services to Oregon public bodies with a targeted focus on the unmet needs of regional and local government, special districts, Education Service Districts, K-12 schools and libraries.

Governance (Advisory Body): HB 2049 would change the membership, roles, and responsibilities of the current Oregon Cybersecurity Advisory Council (OCAC). The newly reconfigured 15-member council, comprised of a geographically diverse set of representatives from stakeholder organizations, would serve as the advisory body for the CCOE. The OCAC will include state experts, local and regional governments, tribes, schools, critical infrastructure, and private sector representatives.

Operations: HB 2049 would direct Portland State University, Oregon State University and University of Oregon to jointly operate the CCOE by an operating agreement, provide administrative and staff support and facilities for center operations. It would allow the CCOE to enter into agreements that enable the establishment and ongoing support of CCOE operations and services.

Funding: HB 2049 would authorize the CCOE to accept moneys allocated from the state, the federal government and other sources; and establish several targeted Funds to accomplish its mission, e.g: a cybersecurity operating fund, workforce development fund, grant fund for local entities, and a public awareness fund.

Why we care about HB 2049?

HB 2049 would leverage federal funds. The federal government has made cybersecurity a priority. Oregon should be ready to receive these funds and have the infrastructure in place to develop a stakeholder driven cybersecurity plan and oversite to ensure it is spent appropriately and for the benefit of all Oregonians.

HB 2049 would leverage current expertise and invest in it. For example, Portland State University has a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (NCAE-R) designation from the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Each of the universities co-operating the center and many other higher education institutions, including community colleges, would bring necessary policy, operational, and technical expertise to the CCOE.

Contact: Nolan Pleše, League of Oregon Cities, nplese@orcities.org

HB 2049 would encourage collaboration and partnership. Having an expanded OCAC would bring more people to the table with unique skills, challenges, and perspectives. Together people from different sectors and industries can begin to fully assess and solve Oregon's cybersecurity challenges.

HB 2049 would support local government partners in becoming more secure. Oregon's thousands of local government entities, including special districts, schools, cities and counties, have access to an incredible amount of sensitive information and provide services that are critical to public life. When local governments and their critical services and infrastructure are vulnerable, the public is at risk.

HB 2049 would help increase the cybersecurity workforce. Right now, Oregon has nearly **7,500 unfilled positions** for skilled cybersecurity workers across all sectors. Our educational system is not graduating enough students to fill this gap. Programs that would be supported by this bill would help garner interest in the cybersecurity field, provide experiential learning opportunities for students, and help to close the gap in our cybersecurity workforce.

Supporters

League of Oregon Cities
Oregon State University
Portland State University
University of Oregon
LCOG Lane Council of Governments
St. Charles Health System
Oregon School Boards Association
eclypsium
Summit Security Group
Link Oregon
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Technology Association of Oregon
Mt. Hood Community College
COSA Coalition of Oregon School Administrators
League of Women Voters of Oregon
InterMountain Education Service District
VERACODE
City of Glendale Oregon
SDAO Special Districts Association of Oregon
Portland Community College
Cisco
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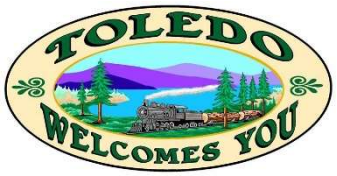
TechNet The Voice of the Innovation Economy
AOC Association of Oregon Counties

Contact: Nolan Pleše, League of Oregon Cities, nplese@orcities.org



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