



Office of the Governor

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor's executive order strengthens state agency cybersecurity

SANTA FE — Today, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham issued Executive Order 2024-011 (EO 2024-011), reinforcing New Mexico's defenses against cybersecurity threats with stringent measures to safeguard sensitive state agency information.

"Cybersecurity is not just a technological issue; it's a matter of public safety and national security," said **Gov. Lujan Grisham**. "That's why I've taken decisive action to fortify the resilience of our state agencies against potential cyber intrusions."

In response to this pressing concern, EO 2024-011 mandates comprehensive action to enhance cybersecurity measures across state agencies. The order directs the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to conduct thorough information technology and security assessments on state agencies, enabling the detection of security vulnerabilities and hardening defenses as necessary.

Under the directives of EO 2024-011, state agencies are required to adopt and implement cybersecurity, information security, and privacy policies. These measures must be based upon no less than moderate-impact security control baselines, frameworks, and standards issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. State agencies are mandated to certify compliance with these standards by November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter.

In cases where state agencies are unable to certify compliance, they must submit a request for exemption to DoIT. Agencies must accompany this request with a comprehensive plan outlining steps to achieve compliance and an approximate timeline for completion. DoIT will review exemption requests and make recommendations to the Office of the Governor for approval or denial. If an exemption is denied, agencies must promptly submit an updated plan for consideration.

Additionally, EO 2024-011 encourages all public bodies not subject to the order to voluntarily comply with its rules, standards, and requirements. Such bodies are urged to participate in cybersecurity and information security programs offered by the Cybersecurity Office, the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee, or DoIT.

EO 2024-011 defines "state agencies" as departments, offices, boards, commissions, and other agencies within the Executive Branch under gubernatorial control. The order takes effect immediately and will remain in force until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

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State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2024-011

STRENGTHENING STATE AGENCY CYBERSECURITY

WHEREAS, a surge in cybersecurity breaches and hacks poses a severe threat to the integrity of sensitive information held by state agencies;

WHEREAS, recognizing the escalating nature of cyber threats, there is an urgent need to fortify the defenses of New Mexico's state agencies against potential cyber intrusions;

WHEREAS, the protection of citizen data and critical infrastructure requires immediate and comprehensive action to enhance cybersecurity measures; and

WHEREAS, implementing and enforcing strengthened cybersecurity requirements will bolster the overall resilience of state agencies in the face of evolving cyber threats.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. The Department of Information Technology shall conduct information technology and security assessments on state agencies to detect security vulnerability incidents and support mitigation efforts as necessary and within capabilities.
2. State agencies shall adopt and implement cybersecurity, information security, and privacy policies, standards, and procedures based upon no less than moderate-impact security

control baselines, frameworks, and standards issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. State agencies shall certify, in the form and manner specified by the Department of Information Technology and the Office of the Governor, compliance with the applicable standard by November 1, 2024, and on an annual basis thereafter. The Department of Information Technology shall compile state agency certifications and submit them to the Office of the Governor.

3. If a state agency is unable to certify compliance pursuant to Section 2 of this Order, the agency shall submit to the Department of Information Technology a request for an exemption together with a plan outlining the steps the agency is taking to come into compliance and the approximate timeline it anticipates each plan item will be completed. The Department of Information Technology shall review the request for exemption and forward it to the Office of the Governor together with a recommendation to approve or deny the request and the reasons therefore. If the Office of the Governor denies the request for exemption, the agency shall promptly submit an updated plan and timeline for consideration.

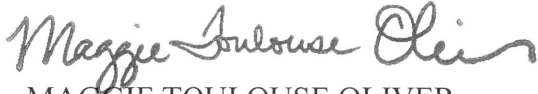
4. All public bodies not subject to this Order are strongly encouraged to voluntarily comply with the rules, standards, and other requirements of the Cybersecurity Act or this Order and participate in the cybersecurity and information security programs offered by the Cybersecurity Office, the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee, or the Department of Information Technology.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. As used in this Order, “state agencies” means departments, offices, boards, commissions, and other agencies within the Executive Branch under gubernatorial control.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 5TH DAY OF APRIL 2024

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

