

# Alaska State Legislature

## Legislative Affairs Agency

### Office of Information Technology

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Jessica Geary, Executive Director

**FROM:** Tim Banaszak, Chief Information Officer *TB*

**DATE:** February 2, 2022

**SUBJECT:** FY23 Budget Increment Request

The Information Technology section needs additional resources to meet current demand and implement new technologies to support the work of the Legislature. This request includes three (3) new full-time positions, as well as related operating expenses in support of the following new or expanded services, in addition to the current workload:

- Cybersecurity
- Telephone in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks (no longer provided by Executive Branch OIT)
- Microsoft Teams use in committee and other legislative meetings
- AKLeg/BASIS app
- eSignature system
- Capitol Complex television service
- Security camera system in Juneau and Anchorage
- Telework
- Remote voting

Some of these services are visibly critical such as telephone and television services, while others, such as cybersecurity, remote voting, and the security camera system, provide substantial risk reduction for the continued operations of the Legislature. Microsoft Teams and telework allowed the Legislature to expand public outreach and continue operations during the pandemic when in-person participation was limited; there is now an expectation that these services are part of normal operations. Additional services, such as the AKLeg/BASIS app and the digital eSignature system improve efficiencies and dovetail with other areas, such as telework.

Enhanced cybersecurity measures, telephone and TV services are new areas of work for this section. With a significant increase in criminal cyber activity, foreign actors with malicious intent toward state and national governments, and the demonstrated risk of disrupting the Legislature's critical ability to function

requires resources beyond what IT can currently provide. Regarding telephone services, the Executive Branch will migrate to Microsoft Teams for phone services in early FY23 and will no longer support any telephone services for the Legislature. Additionally, GCI has ended cable TV service, requiring the Legislature to move to DISH Network. Both occurrences mean IT is now required to fully support telephone and television services for the Legislature. Even with a new network specialist position, there are overall savings of \$9,500 to be realized within the Legislature's budget. The new phone system will cost approximately \$117,600 less and the new TV system will cost approximately \$21,900 less overall.

Cybersecurity, telephone, and television support are new services that require the following resources:

Category	Description	Cost
Position	Information Security Officer (R21)	135,000.00
Contractual	Tools for threat detection and protection; auto detection and response; security risk assessment and remediation; vulnerability testing; forensic audits and incident response	315,000.00
	<b>Cybersecurity Annual Cost</b>	<b>450,000.00</b>
Position	Network Specialist (R20)	130,000.00
Telephone	OIT phone system annual cost (exp 10/22)	(192,600.00)
Contractual	New phone system est annual cost	75,000.00
	GCI Cable est annual cost	(38,300.00)
TV Contractual	New TV system est annual cost	16,400.00
	<b>Telephone/TV Annual Cost</b>	<b>(9,500.00)</b>
	<b>New Service Support Annual Total</b>	<b>445,500.00</b>

The addition of technologies such as Microsoft Teams for committee meetings, AKLEG/BASIS app, eSignature system, as well as support for new services such as telework, the security camera system for Juneau and Anchorage, and putting infrastructure and support in place for remote voting capabilities in an emergency should the Legislature not be able to meet in person have stressed current resources. Without additional personnel, some of these services may be discontinued, ongoing support degraded, or implementation significantly delayed. IT staff worked approximately 2,500 hours of compensatory time (avg of 125 hrs/person) in CY2021, or the equivalent of 1.3 full time positions to accomplish the current workload.

Support of existing services requires the following resources:

Category	Description	Cost
Position	Network Specialist (R20)	130,000.00
	<b>Existing Service Support Annual Total</b>	<b>130,000.00</b>

In total, Information Technology requires an increment of approximately **801.4** to continue existing services, as well as provide for new services of cybersecurity, telephone, and television support.

Thank you for your consideration.