
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1247 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MILLER, COSTA, HUGHES, FONTANA, DILLON, KANE,
SANTARSIERO AND STREET, JUNE 21, 2024

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
JUNE 21, 2024

AN ACT

1 Providing for significant incident prevention, incident response
2 and recovery assistance to local entities and municipal
3 authorities through payment of State money to the
4 cybersecurity and infrastructure security fund supplementing
5 Federal money; expanding the available funding opportunities;
6 further providing for powers and duties of the Pennsylvania
7 Emergency Management Agency; and making an appropriation.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Short title.

11 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Pennsylvania
12 Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act.

13 Section 2. Declaration of policy.

14 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

15 (1) The Federal Government recognized the importance of
16 aiding State and local government entities with addressing
17 cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to information
18 systems owned or operated by, or on behalf of, state and
19 local governments, when the Congress of the United States
20 enacted the Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act.

1 (2) The Federal Government provided funding to aid local
2 government entities to respond, remediate or recover from a
3 significant incident when the Infrastructure Improvement and
4 Jobs Act included the State and Local Cybersecurity
5 Improvement Act.

6 (3) The Commonwealth recognizes the importance of
7 allocating State money to provide State specific support in
8 addition to the current Federal opportunity provided to a
9 local government entity to address cybersecurity risks and
10 threats, whether necessary for an entity to prevent an
11 incident, respond to an incident or act to recover from an
12 incident.

13 (4) The Commonwealth recognizes the importance of
14 allocating State money to expand the current Federal
15 opportunity to address cybersecurity risks and threats to a
16 municipal authority not qualified under the Federal program.

17 Section 3. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
19 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
20 context clearly indicates otherwise:

21 "Agency." The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

22 "Eligible entity." A local government entity awarded a grant
23 under the Pennsylvania program established by the agency to
24 distribute money authorized under 6 U.S.C. § 665g(n) (2) (A)
25 (relating to State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program) or a
26 municipal authority.

27 "Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act" or "IIJA." The
28 Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-
29 58, 135 Stat. 429).

30 "Local government entity." An entity under the

1 Commonwealth's jurisdiction that is a municipality, municipal
2 authority or interstate government entity or agency or
3 instrumentality of a local government.

4 "Municipal authority." A body corporate and politic created
5 under the former act of May 2, 1945 (P.L.382, No.164), known as
6 the Municipality Authorities Act of 1945 or 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 56
7 (relating to municipal authorities).

8 "Municipality." A county, city, town, borough, township or
9 school district of this Commonwealth.

10 "Pennsylvania cybersecurity plan." The plan submitted by the
11 Commonwealth to the Secretary of Homeland Security under 6
12 U.S.C. § 665g(e) (1).

13 "Pennsylvania program." The program administered by the
14 agency to award grants to eligible entities and distribute money
15 for a use prescribed in the Pennsylvania cybersecurity plan
16 certified to the Secretary of Homeland Security under 6 U.S.C. §
17 665g(n) (1).

18 "Significant incident." As defined under 6 U.S.C. § 677a(8)
19 (relating to definitions).

20 "State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act" or "SLCIA."
21 The State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act established by
22 the IIJA.

23 Section 4. Powers and duties.

24 The agency shall:

25 (1) Develop a standard application form to be completed
26 by an eligible entity to apply for State money under this
27 act.

28 (2) Develop a program for the distribution of State
29 money to an eligible entity under this act. The program
30 administration, award and distribution guidelines shall be

1 similar to the guidelines established by the agency for
2 awarding money and making distributions under the
3 Pennsylvania program.

4 (3) Provide State money to an eligible entity in
5 accordance with this act.

6 (4) Within 60 days of the effective date of this
7 section, establish guidelines as it determines necessary to
8 implement this act.

9 Section 5. Application.

10 (a) Time for filing.--An eligible entity must apply to the
11 agency for State money under this act during the time period
12 announced by the agency for completion and submission of the
13 grant application under this act by completing and submitting to
14 the agency the form under section 4(1).

15 (b) Contents of application.--The application form under
16 section 4(1) shall contain, at a minimum:

17 (1) the identification of the eligible entity;

18 (2) a statement of an eligible entity's request for
19 State money under this act; and

20 (3) other qualifying information as required by the
21 agency for receipt of State money by an eligible entity.

22 Section 6. Appropriation.

23 (a) General rule.--For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sum of
24 \$10,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the agency
25 for the purpose of providing financial assistance to eligible
26 entities to be distributed as allocated under subsection (b) and
27 for carrying out the agency's responsibilities under this act.
28 No more than \$500,000 of the money appropriated under this
29 subsection may be used for administrative costs incurred by the
30 agency to carry out this act.

1 (b) Distribution.--The sum appropriated for the 2024-2025
2 fiscal year for the purpose of making distributions under this
3 act shall be distributed to each eligible entity according to
4 the guidelines established by the agency.

5 Section 7. Transmission.

6 The agency shall transmit grant award information to the
7 chairperson and minority chairperson of the Appropriations
8 Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and minority
9 chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the House of
10 Representatives, including grant amounts.

11 Section 8. Effective date.

12 This act shall take effect in 60 days.