A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the coronavirus
disease 2019 pandemic has required many state employees to work
from home or other remote locations to maintain social
distancing and prevent the spread of the virus. However, the
relocation of state employees to non-traditional work
environments has left an indelible impression on the
possibilities of how state work can be accomplished.

The legislature also finds that working from home or other
off-worksit locations has demonstrated cost-effectiveness and
productivity in rendering public services. Remote teleworking
can and should continue to remain an important option for state
employees who can accomplish their duties outside of their
traditional work environment. Social distancing and decreasing
employees' physical presence in state facilities can continue to
provide a defense against the spread of infectious disease as
well as enable more cost-efficient use of state office
facilities.
The legislature has determined that employees working off-site enables the State to make better use of its limited resources, including but not limited to office space, furnishing, equipment, electrical and data requirements, storage space, and other traditional needs of employees who work at state facilities. Employees who can accomplish the same work from an off-site location may prefer to work at home to accommodate caregiving of keiki and kupuna. These considerations can result in a win-win outcome for taxpayers and state employees.

The purpose of this Act is to require the department of accounting and general services to establish and enforce a virtual private network policy in order to provide state employees teleworking from home or other off-worksites access to otherwise closed state network resources through the internet in a secure and uniform manner.

SECTION 2. Section 26-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) The department shall:

(1) Preaudit and conduct after-the-fact audits of the financial accounts of all state departments to
determine the legality of expenditures and the
accuracy of accounts;

(2) Report to the governor and to each regular session of
the legislature as to the finances of each department
of the State;

(3) Administer the state risk management program;

(4) Establish and manage motor pools;

(5) Manage the preservation and disposal of all records of
the State;

(6) Undertake the program of centralized engineering and
office leasing services, including operation and
maintenance and lease buyback processing pursuant to
subsection (d) of public buildings, for departments of
the State;

(7) Undertake the functions of the state surveyor;

(8) Establish accounting and internal control systems;

(9) Under the direction of the chief information officer,
provide centralized computer information management
and processing services;
(10) Establish a program to provide a means for public access to public information and develop an information network for state government; [and]

(11) Assume administrative responsibility for the office of information practices[ ]; and

(12) Establish and enforce a virtual private network policy for state employees to securely access otherwise closed state network resources."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:  

[Signature]
Report Title:
DAGS; Virtual Private Networks; State Employees; Internet Access

Description:
Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish and enforce a virtual private network policy to allow state employees to access specified state resources on the internet.

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