

# ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 914

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 18, 2010

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably Assembly, No. 914.

This bill would require the Chief Technology Officer in the Office of Information Technology to study and submit a written report concerning the potential benefits of the expanded use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record by the State. "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record. "Electronic record" means a record created, generated, sent, communicated, received, or stored by electronic means. The Chief Technology Officer is to provide the Governor, both houses of the Legislature, the Chair of the Senate Commerce Committee, and the Chair of the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, with a written report of the study findings together with any recommendations concerning the potential benefits of expanding the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record by the State.

The report is to include an analysis of information obtained from users of the State government computer systems, including citizens, State agencies, universities, community colleges, local education agencies, and other units of local government. Additionally, the report would contain specific proposals that would, if implemented, expand the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record in State government, and would include the establishment of an ongoing function within State government to execute the expansion. The proposals would address the feasibility of expanding activities involving the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record that are suitable for utilization within the State government computer systems, as well as those activities suitable for governmental entities to pursue independently. Also, the proposals would include information concerning expected costs and benefits of such expansion; recommendations for funding recurring and nonrecurring costs of the specific proposals; and a model to support the proposals.

The bill would require the Chief Technology Officer to include, within the report, an evaluation of the opportunities for efficiencies

and potential cost savings in State government through the use of electronic transactions, including the use of electronic signature and electronic record. The report would include an assessment of opportunities for the State to obtain federal and local support to further implement the use of electronic transactions and proposed legislation that may be considered by the Legislature to ensure implementation by the State agencies. Finally, the report would include any other information deemed relevant to the subject matter of the report.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.