

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



## Governor Tim Walz

### Executive Order 19-02

#### **Establishing the Governor's Blue Ribbon Council on Information Technology**

I, **Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota**, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following Executive Order:

The Governor and Lieutenant Governor recognize the important work done by Minnesota IT Services ("MNIT") in providing technology support and services for 5.5 million Minnesotans. MNIT's 2,300 employees work closely with state agencies to provide applications for areas ranging from health care to hiking trails. Minnesota is a leader in information technology ("IT"), one of only ten states in the country to receive an A- or higher from Digital States in 2018 and ranked third for Emerging Technologies and Innovation. Nonetheless, technology is ever evolving, and new challenges and threats to our IT systems arise every day. To ensure that Minnesota's IT systems are robust, efficient, and secure, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor seek to enlist the expertise of Minnesota's best and brightest technological minds across the public and private sectors.

The Governor's Blue Ribbon Council on Information Technology ("Council") will be an advisory group to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor made up of experts on development and implementation of IT in private and public institutions. The Council will provide advice on how to update and maintain the State's IT systems to ensure that Minnesota residents and businesses who interact with the State receive the best possible service. Members of the Council will also advise on the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars invested in IT projects, while keeping government data secure and protecting the State against cybersecurity threats.

The Council expands the existing Technology Advisory Committee. The Council will include additional members with IT expertise and state legislators. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor seek advice from IT experts in the public and private sectors and from legislative leaders as the Council tackles issues of data privacy, cybersecurity and updating old state computer systems.

For these reasons, I order that:

1. The Governor's Blue Ribbon Council on Information Technology ("Council") is established.

2. The Council will provide private and public sector counsel to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Commissioner of Minnesota IT Services, and the Legislature.
3. The Council will be comprised of the following voting members:
  - a. Fifteen voting members:
    - i. The nine members of the existing Technology Advisory Committee as set forth in Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 16E.036
    - ii. Six additional members selected by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor with private-sector or public-sector IT experience or experience in academia pertaining to IT
  - b. Four *ex officio* non-voting members:
    - i. A member of the Minnesota House of Representatives selected by the Speaker of the House
    - ii. A member of the Minnesota House of Representatives selected by the Minority Leader
    - iii. A member of the Minnesota Senate selected by the Majority Leader
    - iv. A member of the Minnesota Senate selected by the Minority Leader
4. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor will designate one of the fifteen voting members to serve as the Council's Chair.
5. The Council will have three sub-committees:
  - a. A Data Privacy Sub-Committee to provide advice related to the State's use and protection of private data and liaise with the Legislative Commission on Data Practices and Personal Data Privacy
  - b. A Cyber Security Sub-Committee to provide advice related to the protection of the State's IT infrastructure
  - c. A Modernization Sub-Committee to provide advice related to the State's largest and most complex IT projects
6. Each Sub-Committee will be comprised of five members of the Council, as assigned by the Council's Chair. Each Sub-Committee will appoint a Chair from its membership.
7. The Council may establish additional sub-committees as necessary to advance its work.
8. The Council will hold its first meeting in March 2019.



9. Meetings of the Council will occur every other month; Sub-Committee meetings will be held during the alternate months.
10. Sub-Committees may hold additional meetings as needed to advance the Council's work.
11. The Council will prepare quarterly reports to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the Commissioner of Minnesota IT Services, and the Legislature, with the first report due by June 30, 2019. The quarterly reports will provide an update on the status of the above activities.
12. Minnesota IT Services will provide staffing and administrative support to the Council.

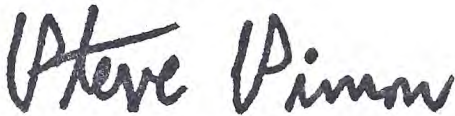
This Executive Order is effective fifteen days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State. It will remain in effect until June 30, 2020 or until rescinded by proper authority.

Signed on February 6, 2019.



**Tim Walz**  
Governor

Filed According to Law:



**Steve Simon**  
Secretary of State

