



May 17, 2023

The Honorable Marilyn S. John
Chair, State and Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives

The Honorable Bill Dean
Vice Chair, State and Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives

The Honorable Sean P. Brennan
Ranking Member, State and Local Government Committee
Ohio House of Representatives

Re: Support of House Bill 74 (State information technology systems and shared services)

Dear Chair John, Vice Chair Dean, and Ranking Member Brennan:

The Alliance for Digital Innovation (ADI) is a non-profit coalition of technology companies focused on accelerating change in the public sector through the adoption of emerging technology. Our members are some of the most innovative technology firms in the nation, including many that already proudly serve the State of Ohio.

ADI supports House Bill 74 and encourages you to report this legislation favorably from your committee to the House floor.

One of the biggest challenges faced by most states in their IT modernization journey is an inability to account for all software and applications used by state agencies. The existence of this “shadow IT,” which is typically not known or authorized by the state CIO or the enterprise IT agency, increases cybersecurity, financial, and operational risk for state government. These applications can create unknown access points to government systems for malicious actors, create duplicative spending, or lead to unanticipated disruptions in services to Ohio residents. **House Bill 74 would represent an important tool in the fight against shadow IT by establishing a statewide policy of transparency for all technology spending in Ohio state government.**

Further, as government services evolve to meet the demands of our digital lives, public sector agencies are investing in modern, cloud-based technology to meet their missions. Through the implementation of cloud-based technology solutions that enhance cybersecurity, increase reliability of services, provide improved cost-efficiency, and scale quickly to meet the ever-changing needs of citizens, state and local government agencies around the country are better positioned to serve their communities.

In our experience, one of the critical elements for success in any statewide cloud migration program is the creation of a truly comprehensive strategic roadmap. However, it is extremely difficult to develop a truly comprehensive roadmap without the strong support of the legislative branch and a mandate for all agencies to participate. **By creating such a mandate and including members of the legislature as members of the proposed**

biannual advisory committee on state information and technology, House Bill 74 creates a framework that will better situate the State of Ohio to continue its technology modernization journey.

For these reasons we respectfully urge you to support House Bill 74. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out directly, and please consider us a resource as the committee deliberates on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Wolf', is positioned above the printed name.

Dan Wolf

Director of State Programs
Alliance for Digital Innovation

cc: The Honorable Thomas Hall
The Honorable Mary Lightbody