

House Bill No. 2724

Geographic Information Systems in Kansas

Testimony of Ivan Weichert, GIS Director
Office of Information Technology Services

HB 2724 seeks to make changes to the current governance structure of geographic information systems in the following three main areas:

- Establishes the Kansas Geographic Information Systems Policy Board in statute vs. gubernatorial executive order, where it has been since 1989 and last updated in 2006. This bill also reduces the number of members from 37 to 21. The GIS Policy Board continues to be a proactive and necessary advisory group that promotes collaboration, consolidation and efficiency among state and local entities.
- Establishes the position of Geographic Information Officer (GIO) in the Office of Information Technology Services (OITS); a newly reorganized central IT office under the Kansas Executive Chief Information Technology Officer. This entity replaces what was formerly the Division of Information Systems and Communications (DISC).
- Establishes a Kansas One Map Strategy. This bill seeks to cause all state entities that implement GIS technologies to work closely with the GIS Policy Board to continue to build and rely on a single central source of accurate and reliable geospatial data, data standards and best practices, to benefit all users in both the public and private sectors.

Ivan Weichert, Kansas GIS Director
17 February 2012

HOUSE BILL No. 2724

By Committee on Government Efficiency

2-10

1 AN ACT regarding information technology; relating to a geographic
2 information systems policy board, powers and duties; a state
3 geographic information systems officer; sustaining Kansas one map.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. Sections 1 through 9, and amendments thereto, may be
7 known and cited as Kansas one map act.

8 Sec. 2. Kansas one map requires the implementation of an overall
9 Kansas land and geographic resources program through the use of a
10 geographic information system which requires cooperative methods for
11 development and maintenance of spatial data between state and local
12 governments in Kansas.

13 Sec. 3. As used in sections 2 through 8, unless the context shows
14 otherwise:

15 (a) "Board" means the geographic information systems policy board.

16 (b) "Geographic information" means data and datasets containing
17 location information including, but not limited to, remotely sensed
18 imagery, global positioning systems files, geospatially referenced
19 computer-aided design files, digital cartographic products, spatially
20 enabled databases, and geospatial datasets locating and describing features
21 and their attributes on, above or under the earth.

22 (c) "Geographic information systems" or "GIS" is an information
23 system capable of capturing, integrating, storing, editing, analyzing,
24 managing, sharing and displaying geographic information. A GIS involves
25 computer hardware, software, networks and applications, as well as the
26 people to operate, develop, administer and use them.

27 (d) "Spatial data" is also known as geospatial data or geographic
28 information and means the data or information that identifies the
29 geographic location of features and boundaries on earth, such as natural or
30 constructed features, oceans and more. Spatial data is usually stored as
31 coordinates and topology and is data that can be mapped. Spatial data is
32 often accessed, manipulated or analyzed through geographic information
33 systems (GIS).

34 Sec. 4. (a) There is hereby established the geographic information
35 systems policy board within the department of administration.

36 (b) The board shall consist of 21 members.

Proposed Amendment
Prepared by Renae Jefferies,
Assistant Revisor of Statutes
February 15, 2012

(1) The geographic information systems officer shall appoint 11 members as follows: Five representatives of local government, including cities, counties or local government consortia of cities, counties, non-profit and private sector enterprises. Such members may include, but not limited to, representatives from city and county commissions or planning councils, tribal government, law enforcement, county clerks, county appraisers and emergency planning divisions; two representatives of the board of regents institutions; two executives representing the private sector. Members from the private sector may include, but not limited to, representatives from the trucking industry, utilities, telecommunications, publishers, agriculturalists, oil and gas industry, chambers of commerce, aircraft and auto industry and the banking community; and two representatives from a relevant statewide business or professional organization, such as statewide associations of groundwater management districts, emergency planning, law enforcement, licensed surveyors and other relevant technical professions or agriculture-related businesses.

(2) The remaining 10 members shall be:

(A) The director of the Kansas office of information technology services or such director's designee;

(B) the director of the Kansas water office or such director's designee;

(C) the director of the Kansas biological survey or such director's designee;

(D) the director of the Kansas geological survey or such director's designee;

(E) the director of the Kansas historical society or such director's designee;

(F) the secretary of the department of agriculture or such director's designee;

(G) the secretary of the department of health and environment or such secretary's designee;

(H) the director of the legislative research department or such director's designee;

(I) the secretary of the department of revenue or such secretary's designee; and

(J) the secretary of the department of transportation or such secretary's designee.

(c) Members appointed by the state geographic information officer shall be appointed for a four-year term and until such member's successors are appointed and qualified. Members not appointed by the state geographic information officer shall serve consistent with their terms of office, employment or appointment.

(d) The state geographic information officer may remove a member from the board for lack of attendance or lack of participation.

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Kansas executive chief information technology officer or such officer's designee

1 (e) The state geographic information officer shall select a chairperson
2 and vice-chairperson from among the members who shall serve at the
3 discretion of the state geographic information officer. The board may elect
4 other officers among its members and may establish any committees
5 deemed necessary to discharge its duties.

6 (f) Board members shall not receive compensation, subsistence
7 allowance, mileage or associated expenses. Officers or employees of state
8 agencies who serve on the board shall be authorized to serve on the board
9 as part of their duties.

10 Sec. 5. The board shall:

11 (a) Establish public and private partnerships throughout Kansas to
12 maximize value, minimize cost and avoid redundant activities in the
13 development and implementation of geographic information systems;

14 (b) foster efficient and secure methods for data sharing at all levels of
15 government;

16 (c) coordinate, review and provide recommendations on geographic
17 information systems programs and investments and provide assistance
18 with dispute resolution among geographic systems partners;

19 (d) continue to establish Kansas' leadership role in the national effort
20 to improve capabilities for sharing geographic information and ideas with
21 other states;

22 (e) promote the use of geographic information systems technologies
23 as tools to breakthrough structural and administrative boundaries to
24 collaborate on shared problems and enhance information analysis and
25 decision-making processes within all levels of government;

26 (f) shall be a standing advisory committee to the information
27 technology executive council and shall provide a copy of its annual report
28 to the council, as well as to the governor and both houses of the
29 legislature; and

30 (g) shall work jointly with officials from other state agencies,
31 organizations and county, municipal and tribal governments, as well as
32 with businesses and organizations in the private sector who are concerned
33 with the efficient management of the state's geographic information
34 systems resources.

35 Sec. 6. (a) There is hereby established the position of state geographic
36 information systems officer who shall be appointed by the executive chief
37 information technology officer and serve in the office of information
38 technology services.

39 (b) The geographic information systems officer shall:

40 (1) Implement Kansas one map, an enterprise statewide mapping
41 strategy that: (A) Supports Kansas state entities and local governments as
42 they foster economic vitality, manage resources, educate, save and restore
43 the natural environment, advance health initiatives, ensure public safety

1 and support science; and (B) enables state entities and local governments
2 to better implement and coordinate policies and programs across Kansas;
3 (2) implement and maintain the Kansas data access and support
4 center, an enterprise geospatial data clearinghouse to include a central
5 store and catalog of Kansas data and mapping services available to all state
6 entities and the public;
7 (3) recruit a technical committee and appoint the technical committee
8 chair;
9 (4) provide oversight for the development of the Kansas one map
10 program and monitor Kansas one map metrics;
11 (5) establish and manage a Kansas one map communications plan and
12 provide for Kansas one map education;
13 (6) maintain a liaison relationship with state, federal, regional, county
14 and municipal organizations;
15 (7) promote, advertise and market applications, capabilities, benefits
16 and results of the Kansas one map program;
17 (8) assist in the identification and capturing of funding to support the
18 Kansas one map program; and
19 (9) adopt rules and regulations as necessary to implement the
20 provisions of this act.
21 Sec. 7. All state departments, agencies, commissions and board shall
22 cooperate with the Kansas geographic information systems policy board
23 and the state geographic information systems officer in implementing the
24 initiatives of Kansas one map.
25 Sec. 8. Funding for the Kansas data access and support center shall be
26 continued through the office of information technology services, directed
27 to the Kansas geological survey which currently houses and supports this
28 function.
29 Sec. 9. In order for the state geographic information systems officer
30 to meet the goals set out in section 5, and amendments thereto, such officer
31 will be supported with other office of information services as needed and
32 available for coordination, standards development and implementation of
33 workshops to research and promote effective uses of the geographic
34 information systems assets and tools to achieve economic and operational
35 benefits from the Kansas one map resource.
36 Sec. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
37 publication in the statute book.
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