

Technology

The Governor's recommended amendments in Technology result in a net increase of \$10.6 million GF for the 2002-04 biennium when compared to the original appropriation. The proposed new spending is primarily attributable to the proposed establishment of the new Virginia Information Technologies Agency and to implement information technology reforms.

As part of the establishment of the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, three existing information technology agencies will be consolidated into the new agency. In addition, language amendments are proposed that would authorize the transfer of \$37.4 million currently used for information technology resources in Executive Branch agencies to the new agency to generate \$4.0 million GF and \$19.4 million NGF in savings. Additional amendments would authorize the consolidation of information technology positions currently in Executive Branch agencies into the Virginia Information Technologies Agency.

- **Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA)**
 - ***Establish Virginia Information Technologies Agency.*** Proposes establishing the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) in the second year of the biennium by consolidating the positions and funding from the Department of Information Technology, the Virginia Information Providers Network Authority, and the Department of Technology Planning.
 - ***Transfer Executive Branch Agency Information Technology Resource Expenses and Positions.*** In order to carry out the reorganization of the state's information technology program, the Governor proposes language authorizing the Secretary of Technology to identify positions and funding in all Executive Department agencies (except for institutions of higher education) for subsequent transfer to the new Virginia Information Technology Agency. Positions to be transferred include full and part-time classified, wage and contract employees in a state agency whose actual job duties involve information technology. Projected dollar amounts to be transferred from executive branch agencies total \$37.4 million.
 - ***Virginia Technology Fund.*** A language amendment would create the Virginia Technology Fund as a nonreverting special fund. It is anticipated that the Fund would be capitalized with appropriated funds, an agency credit line, or savings generated by information

technology consolidations. Balances in this fund would be used to develop, implement, and maintain information technology systems on an enterprise basis.

- **Establish Agency Line of Credit.** Language in Part 3 of the Bill proposes to establish a \$30.0 million line of credit for the Virginia Information Technologies Agency. The line of credit would be repaid through technology savings identified by the Secretary of Technology or from fees assessed to state agencies for enterprise technology projects funded from the Technology Fund.
- **Statewide Technology Reform Initiative.** From the \$37.4 million in technology resources transferred from executive branch agencies, a proposed amendment would increase the appropriation for VITA by \$14.0 million GF in the second year to fund activities of the statewide information technology reform initiative. The remaining \$23.4 million would accrue as savings in the second year of \$4.0 million GF and \$19.4 million NGF. Proposed language in Part 3 would transfer the \$19.4 million NGF savings to the general fund. Savings from the technology reform initiative are anticipated to accrue through the following actions:

1) VITA Implementation: Through consolidation of all technology resources into one agency, anticipated savings would accrue through converting contractor positions into state FTE positions. This strategy is projected to yield \$16.1 million in savings.

2) Telecommunications Usage Policy: Anticipates \$1.0 million in savings by increasing employee accountability for cell phone, pager, and calling card use.

3) Help Desk Consolidation: Projects savings of \$0.8 million by consolidating and centralizing help desk support functions.

4) Centralized System & Network Management: Through the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, a process for centralized user and account management would be established. Savings for this element of the technology reform initiative is projected to result in \$3.0 million in savings.

5) Other Cost Saving Elements: The remaining elements of the technology reform initiative anticipate additional savings of \$3.4 million.

- **Department of Information Technology**
 - **Consolidate Agency.** Proposes consolidating the Department of Information Technology into the new Virginia Information Technologies Agency. Transfers all funds and positions to the new agency.

- **Department of Technology Planning**
 - **Consolidate Agency.** Proposes consolidating the Department of Technology Planning into the new state Virginia Information Technologies Agency.

- **Virginia Information Providers Network Authority (VIPNet)**
 - **Wireless E-911 Fund Balances.** A proposed Part 3 amendment transfers \$7.0 million the first year and \$4.7 million the second year from unobligated cash balances in the Wireless E-911 Fund to the general fund.
 - **Consolidate Agency.** Proposes consolidating the Virginia Information Providers Network Authority into a new state agency to be named the Virginia Information Technologies Agency. Transfers all funds and positions to the new agency.