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## **Governor Abbott Signs Texas Cybersecurity Act into Law**

AUSTIN – Yesterday, Governor Greg Abbott signed HB 8, the Texas Cybersecurity Act, into law. Authored by Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake, and championed in the Senate by Finance Chairman Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, the bill calls for a review of the state's cybersecurity protocols, better security measures to lock down sensitive data, and provides for more accountability with the management of Texas' cyber infrastructure.

Recommendations in the legislation include: increased agency risk assessments, agency heads and information security officers will be required to develop and approve information security plans and strategy to address risk; data security plans for online and mobile applications must be considered and implemented; and, Select Committees in the House and Senate will be established to review and oversee the state's cybersecurity framework.

"Texas is fortunate to have leaders who recognize that cybersecurity reform is necessary preventative maintenance for the state and economy. I want to thank Rep. Capriglione and Speaker Straus in the House as well as Chair Nelson and Lt. Governor Patrick in the Senate – and, of course Governor Greg Abbott for signing the bill into law. Each of these leaders recognizes the importance of enhancing Texas' cybersecurity wellbeing" said Justin Yancy, president of the TBLC. "This bi-partisan effort allows for us to work proactively in better securing Texans private data, train public employees how to identify a breach faster, and upgrade or dispose of old, less secure systems."

The Texas Business Leadership Council is a network of Texas based CEOs and senior business executives who advance a long-term vision of a prosperous Texas in a globally competitive business environment.

*[Justin Yancy](#) is the president of the Texas Business Leadership Council.*

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