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PURPOSE

To establish the decision-making authority for large IT initiatives/projects (hereafter referred to as "IT Projects") within the state enterprise. This policy will also ensure that the IT Projects are properly managed and implemented through established governance and oversight processes that enable agency business outcomes and achieve the State's interest. These governance processes are warranted through identified standards and guidelines referenced in this policy. This policy sets forth and reemphasizes this Authority's responsibility to outline and advocate sound technology management principles for the enterprise.

Large IT Projects generally share common characteristics:

- They are complex and difficult to properly procure.
- They are inherently risky due to long planning horizons and complex interfaces typically associated with them.
- Decision making and planning are often multi-actor processes with competing and conflicting interests.
- The project scope or ambition level often changes significantly over time.
- Vendor management is often difficult and underestimated.

This complexity often results in, miscalculations about costs, unrealized benefits, and risks result in cost overruns and/or benefit shortfalls to the State, or even project failure. Industry best practices suggest instituting additional levels of oversight and governance for large, complex projects, with the goal of enhancing risk awareness and mitigation. Increased awareness requires information and data, which in turn support sound decision making and lead to better managed IT Projects.

SCOPE and AUTHORITY

Information Technology Policies, Standards and Guidelines (PM-04-001)

Legislative Authority: O.C.G.A. §45-12-73, §50-5-51, §50-5-55, §50-5-57, §50-5-59, §50-5-64, §50-5-67, and §50-25-4

POLICY