

Summary of Policy Considerations

The Legislature may consider the following policy changes:

- Create a centralized filing system for reports statutorily required to be provided by agencies to the Legislature, to include the following functionality:
 - An index of all statutorily required reports, sortable by agency name, policy area, title of law, and other information.
 - The dates of the last submitted report and the due date of the next report.
 - Notification to the statutorily designated report recipients when a report is submitted, therefore eliminating the need for agencies to separately provide copies to each recipient and the recipient to maintain records of the reports.
 - Confirmation of submission to the agency.
 - A dashboard reflecting whether a report has been submitted or is overdue.
 - If a report is required due to an event or agency action, provide a list of questions from which the agency can determine if they are required to submit a report.
- Designate an agency or office of the Legislature to provide oversight of reports to ensure compliance by agencies.
- Direct agencies through statute that if the content requested is available elsewhere, such as through another agency's report or within the agency's annual report, that the agency submittal include the relevant sections of the previously reported information and not just a reference to the existing report or attachment of another report.
- Create a process to periodically review the continued need for individual reports, whether this task is assigned to an oversight entity or feedback is solicited from agencies.
- Establish sunset dates for reports created to document progress of a new program.
- Direct the review of statutorily ambiguous reporting requirements to either clarify the requested information or to clarify the recipients of such information. For example, replacing references to "the Legislature" with specific office holders.
- For any reports whose submission is contingent upon a federal definition, replace the federal term with a list of agencies the Legislature wants to receive information from.
- Require the agency or office responsible for tracking agency compliance with reporting to provide compliance information to the chairs of the respective committees with oversight of those agencies.
- Clarify legislative intent that agencies are to follow the requirements of statutes until specifically directed otherwise, eliminating agencies independently deciding a report is no longer required. This would include an agency submitting a report describing the conditions for why the agency does not have information to provide.
- When a report requirement is statutorily created, also assign an entity responsible for informing an agency of the report requirement.