

Senate Bill 53

By: Senators Hufstetler of the 52nd, Albers of the 56th, Butler of the 55th, Hickman of the 4th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd and others

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 25 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Georgia Technology Authority, so as to provide such authority with the power and duty to
3 establish standards for state agencies' website design, navigation, and accessibility; to
4 provide for a definition; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
5 other purposes.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 25 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia
9 Technology Authority, is amended in subsection (a) of Code Section 50-25-4, relating to
10 general powers, by revising paragraphs (31) and (32) and adding a new paragraph to read as
11 follows:

12 "(31) To coordinate the establishment and administration of one or more programs to
13 increase economic, educational, and social opportunities for citizens and businesses
14 through the promotion of the deployment of broadband services and other emerging
15 communications technologies throughout the state and to exercise any power granted to
16 the authority in Chapter 40 of this title; ~~and~~

(32) To establish and enforce website design, navigation, and accessibility specifications and standards that shall apply to all agency websites as provided under Code Section 50-25-7.14; and

(32)(33) To do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the powers conferred by this chapter."

SECTION 2.

Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"50-25-7.14.

(a) For purposes of this Code section, the term 'agency' means every state agency, board, bureau, commission, authority, and department, including such departments headed by elected constitutional officers of the state but shall not include any agency within the judicial or legislative branch of state government, the Georgia Department of Defense, or the University System of Georgia.

(b) The authority shall coordinate with all agencies to develop website design, navigation, and accessibility specifications and standards that shall include, but shall not be limited to:

(1) Accessibility for individuals with disabilities in accordance with any applicable state or federal laws;

(2) Consistency with applicable state and federal government security protocols;

(3) Design selections centered around user goals, needs, and behaviors with continual data-driven analysis influencing management and development decisions;

(4) Utilization of technology that creates a more customized digital experience that allows users to complete digital transactions in an efficient and accurate manner; and

(5) Full functionality and usability on common mobile devices."

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.