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## OLR Bill Analysis

### SB 1431

#### ***AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT CONCERNING DATA GOVERNANCE.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill makes changes in the law governing executive branch data sharing and management. The law generally authorizes the state's chief data officer (CDO) to direct executive branch agencies on data use, management, sharing, coordination, and formulation of the state data plan, and requires them to meet certain related requirements.

Under current law, the "executive branch agencies" subject to these provisions are 24 of the 25 statutorily defined executive branch departments (excluding the Board of Regents for Higher Education). The bill more broadly extends these provisions to cover (1) each department, board, council, commission, institution, or other Executive Department agency (with any entity included by law within a given department deemed a division of that department); (2) the offices of the six constitutional officers; and (3) all Executive Department agency operations funded by either the General Fund or a special fund. It excludes constituent units of the state higher education system.

In doing so, the bill generally requires a newly covered agency to:

1. designate an employee as its agency data officer,
2. consult with the CDO on the state data plan,
3. take information technology-related actions and initiatives consistent with the state data plan,
4. conduct an annual inventory of its high value data, and
5. develop an open data access plan.

The bill also (1) subjects the newly covered agencies to a CDO review, in consultation with the attorney general and their own legal counsel, on the legal obstacles to sharing their high value data and (2) eliminates a requirement that CDO annually report on ways to share executive branch high value data. By law, “high value data” is data that the department head determines:

1. is critical to an executive branch agency’s operation;
2. can (a) increase executive branch agency accountability and responsiveness, (b) improve public knowledge about the agency and its operations, (c) further the agency’s core mission, or (d) create economic opportunity;
3. is frequently requested by the public;
4. responds to a need and demand as identified by the agency through public consultation; or
5. is used to satisfy any legislative or other reporting requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the provision eliminating the annual report requirement is effective October 1, 2025.

### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea    16    Nay    3    (03/26/2025)