

**Memorandum**

**To:** Public Agency CIOs and IT Directors

**From:** Teena Piccione, Secretary and State Chief Information Officer

**CC:** Dylan Frick, NCDIT Director of Legislative Affairs  
Agency Legislative Liaisons  
N.C. General Assembly

**Subject:** Implementation of SL 2024-26 – Prohibition on Viewing Pornography on Government Networks and Devices

**Date:** May 29, 2025

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This updated memo (originally issued Dec. 20, 2024) outlines key requirements under [SL 2024-26, Section 7](#), and provides directives to ensure compliance. Specifically, it addresses:

- The State Chief Information Officer's obligations to draft reports and publish recommendations for the appropriate viewing of pornography on public agencies' networks and devices
- The directive for public agencies and others covered by the statute to adopt acceptable use policies governing the use of its devices and networks
- The directive for employees, elected officials and public agency appointees to delete unauthorized pornography from devices leased, maintained or otherwise controlled by a public agency
- NCDIT's intention to support, *but not request*, legislative funding for a content filtering tool available to all public agencies

**State CIO Reporting Obligation**

As required by Section 7(a)(f), the State CIO must compile and submit an annual report on incidents of unauthorized viewing or attempted viewing of pornography on public agency networks and devices. This report will be submitted to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology and will include the requisite information provided by the public agencies defined in N.C.G.S. 143-805(g)(5).

- Public agencies must submit data to the state CIO annually, no later than August 1.
- The deadline for the State CIO to submit is annually, no later than October 1.

**Public Agency Reporting Requirements**

Public agencies must submit the following information each year between July 1 and August 1 via the N.C. Department of Information Technology website ([it.nc.gov/805](https://it.nc.gov/805)):

- The number of incidents involving unauthorized viewing or attempts
- Identification of whether the individuals involved were employees, elected officials, appointees, or students
- Whether incidents occurred on public agency-controlled devices

Agencies should report unauthorized viewing or attempts they have discovered using content filtering tools they have or that have been observed or discovered another way.

### **Recommendations on Appropriate Viewing**

As required in Per Section 7(e) of the statute, the State CIO has published recommendations for the appropriate viewing of pornography. They are limited to the exceptions outlined in N.C.G.S. 143-805(d):

- Investigating or prosecuting crimes, offering or participating in law enforcement training, or performing actions related to other law enforcement purposes
- Identifying potential security or cybersecurity threats
- Protecting human life
- Establishing, testing, and maintaining firewalls, protocols, and otherwise implementing this section
- Participating in judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings
- Conducting or participating in an externally funded research project at one of the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina
- Researching issues related to the drafting or analysis of the laws of this state as necessary to fulfill the requirements of the employee's official duties

**Except for these specific circumstances, the State CIO recommends no other appropriate viewing of pornography on state owned networks or devices.**

### **Directive for Deleting Unauthorized Pornography**

Section 7(b) mandates that any pornography not explicitly permitted under N.C.G.S. 143-805(d) must be removed from public agency devices by January 1, 2025. Any employee, elected official, or appointee of a public agency with pornography saved to a device owned, leased, maintained or otherwise controlled by a public agency shall delete the pornography by January 1, 2025.

### **Directive for Prohibiting Access to Unauthorized Pornography**

Section 7(a)(a) and Section 7(a)(b) require public agencies to prohibit employees, elected officials, or appointees of the agency to view unauthorized pornography on state-owned networks and devices.

Section 7(a)(b) further requires public agencies to prohibit students of the agency from unauthorized viewing of pornography on state-owned devices.

Section 7(a)(c) requires each public agency to adopt an acceptable use policy governing the use of its network and devices. Each acceptable use policy shall delineate the disciplinary actions that will be taken in response to a violation of the policy.

Agencies may refer to the [Acceptable Use Policy \(AUP\)](#) published by NCDIT for guidance.

NCDIT is in the process of applying content filtering to supported agencies. Non-supported agencies should review their toolset to determine capabilities to apply content filtering for inappropriate content. Non-supported agencies can reach out to NCDIT for guidance on establishing protocols to prevent access to inappropriate content.