BACKGROUND

The California Department of Technology (CDT), Office of Information Security (OIS) issues policies and procedures to assist Agencies/state entities comply with information security and privacy requirements. To further support information security objectives, OIS established the California Cybersecurity Maturity Metrics to objectively measure the effectiveness of each Agency/state entity’s cybersecurity program and promote better efficiencies, visibility and decision-making.

The maturity metrics cover foundational elements common among successful cybersecurity programs such as policy, system categorization, and governance. These metrics will allow Agencies/state entities to better evaluate the effectiveness of their budgeted cybersecurity resource allocations and capture objective data points. Cybersecurity maturity scores are weighted and scored based on a “0” (low program maturity) to “4” (high program maturity) scale. Maturity scores will be provided to the Agency/state entity following the completion of an Independent Security Assessment and Audit and results will be communicated to Agency/state entity business management, IT management, and information security officers.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Technology Letter (TL) is to announce:

- New SIMM Section 5300-C, California Cybersecurity Maturity Metrics, includes instructions and tools to measure the effectiveness of an Agency/state entity’s cybersecurity program.
- Cybersecurity maturity metrics will be static for four years to ensure year-over-year comparisons for accurate trending and analysis. Metrics will be evaluated at the end of each four year cycle and updated to accommodate changes in technology and the cybersecurity threat landscape.
- OIS will publish an aggregate report on overall statewide cybersecurity maturity progress.
- California Cybersecurity Maturity Metrics training will be available to all Agency/state entities in the Spring of 2018.

*Information Security Assessment, Audit and Maturity scores are confidential and are exempt from public disclosure per Government Code 6254.19.*

QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this Technology Letter should be directed to CDT’s Office of Information Security at (916) 445-5239 or security@state.ca.gov.

SIGNATURE

/s/ Amy Tong, Director
California Department of Technology