



Chair: Michael Briggs
Lobbyist: Frank Meiners

Council Priorities

The ITC's 2010 legislative priorities are as follows:

- **Legislation on Contract Restrictions:** AIF's ITC was one of the most vocal opponents of legislation passed last session, which would have placed an inordinate amount of restrictions on businesses contracting with the state. These added regulations would have required the Legislature to approve any contract worth more than \$500,000. The bill was ultimately vetoed by Governor Crist, but we expect similar legislation to be filed in 2010.
- **Agency for Enterprise Information Technology (AEIT):** The AEIT is very important to all IT companies; therefore, we will monitor all legislation referencing this agency. The Council also is in favor of increasing the authority of the state's Chief Information Officer who oversees all Florida government IT initiatives.
- **Data Center Consolidation:** The Council supports greater funding for this critical process and a faster pace in consolidating Florida's state data centers.
- **Legacy Systems:** AIF has publicly criticized the state for allowing IT systems to become outdated. By utilizing new, advanced IT systems, the state would see a decrease in operational costs, increase in security and a larger pool of IT professionals trained to control and maintain them. The opposite is true for the old legacy systems. With the state's budget crunch, innovative thinking is necessary to begin the process of replacing these old systems.

Information Technology

AIF's Information Technology Council (ITC) is a group of leading information technology and telecommunications companies representing all aspects of the technology industry. The Council includes service and support providers, IT systems integrators, hardware and software companies, consultants and re-sellers ranging from Fortune 500 companies to medium-sized and small businesses.

Florida's state government has significant legacy information technology (IT) equipment and a decreasing number of professionals that are able to maintain them. In a time of shrinking state budgets and economic uncertainty, technology has the potential to turn government around while concurrently saving money. As legislators consider how to cut government programs without hurting Floridians, IT emerges as one solution to providing the most efficient level of service.

The Council was created in early 2006 with the clear mission to convey the value of IT to Florida's government as the state was falling behind in re-engineering its business processes used in delivering citizen services. The Digital States Survey, conducted biannually by the Center for Digital Government, is a comprehensive study that examines best practices, policies and progress made by state governments in their use of digital technologies to better serve their citizens and streamline operations. In 2004, Florida ranked 20th. However, Florida has not been in the top 25 since that time. The AIF ITC is working hard to reverse this direction in the state's lack of advancements in digital technologies.

Council Position

The ITC will continue to encourage the enhancement of government spending on IT in order to better serve Florida's citizens and employers. In addition, the Council will continue its support of the AEIT and will work towards ensuring that its structure is conducive to achieving sound IT policies and governance for all state agencies.