

- (ii) include all aspects of State information technology including telecommunications, data processing, and information management;
- (iii) consider interstate transfers due to federal legislation and regulation;
- (iv) ensure that information technology plans and budgets are consistent; and
- (v) ensure that State information technology plans, policies, and standards are consistent with State goals, objectives, and resources, and represent a long-range vision for using information technology to improve the overall effectiveness of State government; AND

(5) ADOPTING BY REGULATION AND ENFORCING NONVISUAL ACCESS STANDARDS TO BE USED IN THE PROCUREMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES BY OR ON BEHALF OF UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT.

3-412.

(a) The Chief and the Board, in consultation with other units of State government, and after public comment, shall develop a nonvisual access clause for use in the procurement of information technology AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES which specifies that the technology AND SERVICES:

- (1) must provide equivalent access for effective use by both visual and nonvisual means;
- (2) will present information, including prompts used for interactive communications, in formats intended for both visual and nonvisual use;
- (3) can be integrated into networks for obtaining, retrieving, and disseminating information used by individuals who are not blind or visually impaired; and
- (4) shall be obtained, whenever possible, without modification for compatibility with software and hardware for nonvisual access.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the nonvisual access clause required under subsection (a) of this section shall be included in each invitation for bids or request for proposals AND IN EACH PROCUREMENT CONTRACT OR MODIFICATION OF A CONTRACT ISSUED UNDER TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE, WITHOUT REGARD TO THE METHOD CHOSEN UNDER TITLE 13, SUBTITLE 1 [under Division II] of this article for the purchase of new or upgraded information technology AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES.

(2) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A) (4) OF THIS SECTION, THE nonvisual access clause required under paragraph (1) of this subsection is not required if: