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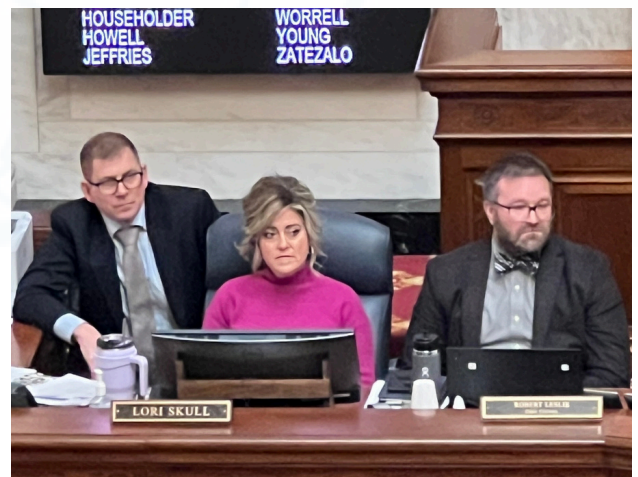
MANAGING TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN STATE LEGISLATURES



The rapid advancement of technology poses significant challenges for state legislatures as they seek to adapt and respond to the evolving needs of constituents and the demands of modern governance. Effective management of technological change is essential not only for the enhancement of legislative efficiency but also for the protection of citizen rights and the promotion of public trust in government institutions. A multifaceted approach – focused on leadership, training, and legislative innovation – is required for state legislatures to successfully navigate technological change.



IRC President Bill Schaeffer discussing 3rd Reading success with Alabama staff



IRC staff sitting in on West Virginia session

Leadership plays a pivotal role in managing technological change within state legislatures. Governors and legislative leaders must establish a clear vision and framework for incorporating new technologies into legislative processes. As seen in 2024, many state legislatures effectively leveraged strong leadership to enact significant technology-related bills, indicating that unified direction can facilitate swift policymaking. States with a "trifecta" government – where one political party controls both legislative chambers and

the governorship—have demonstrated the capacity to implement change rapidly, as this configuration enables greater consensus and streamlined decision-making. These leaders bear the responsibility of not only promoting technological initiatives but also ensuring that they are grounded in principles of transparency, accountability, and inclusivity. By prioritizing professional development, state legislatures can build a workforce that is capable of harnessing technology to enhance legislative performance and engagement.

Moreover, legislative innovation is essential to successfully managing technological change. States must continually assess and update their legal frameworks to accommodate new technologies while safeguarding public interests. For instance, many states enacted privacy legislation in 2024, reflecting an increased recognition of the need to protect citizens' personal data amid the growing prevalence of digital platforms and services. Legislators have the ability to focus on creating adaptive regulations that can respond to unforeseen challenges posed by new technologies, such as algorithmic bias and cybersecurity risks, thereby ensuring that laws remain relevant and effective as technology evolves.

Training is another critical component in preparing legislative staff and officials for technological advancements. A comprehensive training program is vital to equip lawmakers and their aides with the necessary skills to understand and effectively utilize new technologies. These initiatives could include workshops, online courses, and partnerships with educational institutions to foster ongoing learning and adaptation to emerging technologies. For example, California initiated training programs for state employees to help them engage with generative AI tools safely and effectively.



IRC and Alabama staff discussing success of the 3rd Reading Legislative Management System

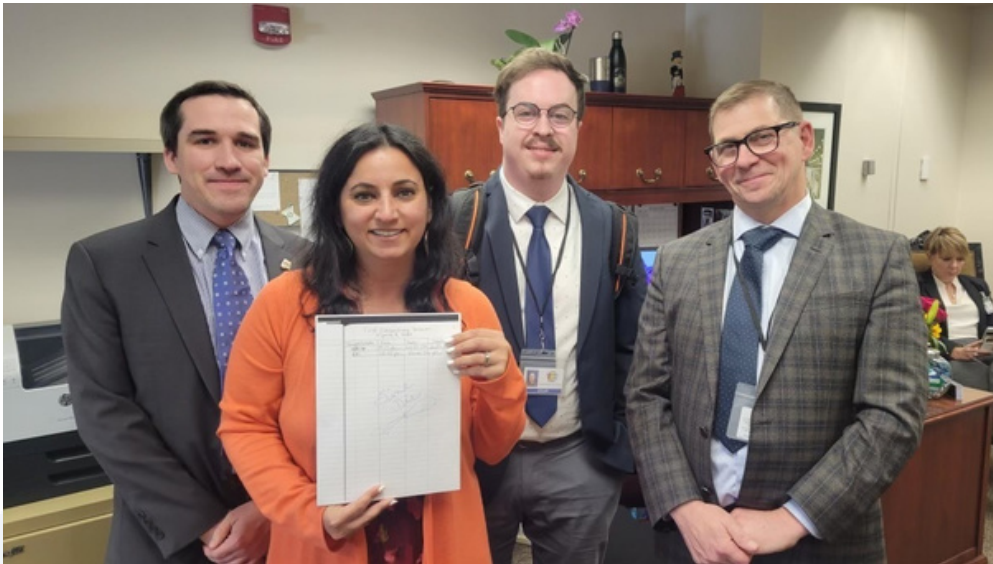


IRC Vice President Tyler Schaeffer preparing a voting board

In addition to innovative legislation, fostering an open dialogue between lawmakers, technology experts, and the public is crucial in navigating technological change. Engaging stakeholders, including community advocates and industry leaders, fosters collaboration and allows for the identification of best practices and potential pitfalls associated with

new technologies. This collaborative approach can be further enriched through initiatives such as public hearings, advisory committees, and pilot programs that not only test new technologies but also gather feedback from constituents.

Managing technological change in state legislatures is a complex but essential endeavor that requires strong leadership, robust training programs, innovative legislative practices, and open communication with stakeholders. As state governments face the challenges and opportunities presented by rapid technological advancements, they must remain vigilant and adaptive, ensuring that they serve the interests of their constituents effectively. Only through a comprehensive and proactive approach can state legislatures harness the full potential of technology while also safeguarding the rights and needs of the public.



IRC staff visiting Alabama for the
3rd Reading Legislative Management System project

WHY IRC IS THE IDEAL PARTNER FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE MANAGEMENT IN LEGISLATURES

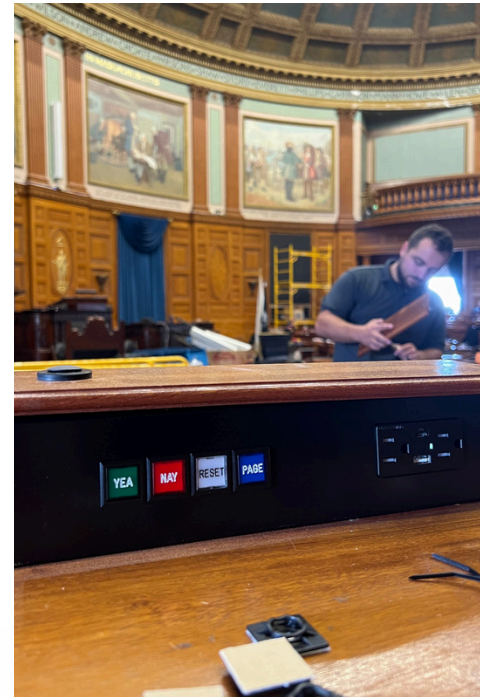
When it comes to managing complex and mission-critical voting systems, no one can match the expertise, responsiveness, and the reliability that International Roll-Call® Corporation has to offer. Throughout the ongoing evolution of digital infrastructure, IRC is the only company that is professionally qualified to support the unique technical demands of legislative voting systems. From key hardware and software components to chamber displays and control interfaces, IRC's comprehensive understanding of the legislative environment ensures that any update or issue can be addressed with precision. IRC is backed with highly trained technicians, developers, and engineers with decades of combined experience working in the legislative environment who are ready to deliver expert support to legislative staff both in and out of Session.



IRC's Howard Jorenby preparing wires for the installation of the IRC VSCU-1000 voting system



IRC's Anthony Zivcsak assembling a voting console



IRC's commitment to 24/7 emergency session support and quick-response protocols allow for critical voting systems to remain operational to the very highest capability. Further, unlike typical IT vendors, IRC offers person-to-person interaction with trained staff who understand the intricacies of legislative voting with on-demand system training for legislative staff, technical guidance that is tailored to each chamber's needs and equipment, and by providing ongoing maintenance and support for IRC products.

In an era where the technological landscape is rapidly evolving, secure, efficient, and reliable legislative systems are more critical than ever. Strong leadership, backed by the support of experts in the technological change management arena, sets the direction for ongoing innovation by maintaining transparent communication and stakeholder engagement — and, most importantly, by navigating change with confidence.

IRC offers more than technical support to state legislatures — it delivers confidence in continuity, personalized support, and specialized expertise to those who need it most.

To read more about how IRC has integrated modern technology into historic legislative environments, click [HERE](#)