



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
ASA HUTCHINSON  
GOVERNOR

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**Memo**

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**To** : State Agency Directors  
**From** : Governor Asa Hutchinson  
**Date** : January 22, 2018  
**Re** : **Microsoft Enterprise Agreement**

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**Background**

The Department of Information Systems (DIS) has proposed entering into a statewide enterprise agreement with Microsoft. This would consolidate all Enterprise Agreement licenses procured by state agencies into a single agreement similar in practice to 42 other states.

Based upon research into current state expenditures for Microsoft and non-Microsoft technologies, potential cost savings, and other benefits, I am authorizing DIS to proceed with executing the agreement with Microsoft on behalf of the state. This authorization will become effective June 1, 2018, and will be associated with a policy memorandum requiring state agencies to modify current technology procurement procedures so future applicable technology products are procured in accordance with this agreement.

The Microsoft EA will be funded through cost recovery billing to state agencies by DIS.

**Benefits**

The agreement with Microsoft is expected to leverage the state's tremendous buying power and save an estimated \$1.4 million per year.

Efficiencies will be gained by eliminating the need for agency IT personnel to perform upgrades, patch core components, and maintain the infrastructure utilized by the core components.

Office 365 provides enhanced protection from cyber threats that will help protect state employee email accounts from malicious links and attachments and the state network from phishing, malware, ransomware, and other malicious activity.

More information will be forthcoming from DIS. Agencies should designate a project sponsor for this effort and provide the individual's email address and phone number to Jamie LaFave at DIS at [jamie.lafave@arkansas.gov](mailto:jamie.lafave@arkansas.gov).

Other questions regarding this matter may be emailed to DIS Deputy Director Carder Hawkins at [carder.hawkins@arkansas.gov](mailto:carder.hawkins@arkansas.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Asa Hutchinson".

Asa Hutchinson