

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gov. Ricketts Recognizes National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

OCTOBER 1, 2020 (LINCOLN, NEB.) — Nebraska's Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) in cooperation with Southeast Community College, will host a virtual event this month in observance of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. The 15th annual Nebraska Cyber Security Conference is scheduled to take place virtually on Tuesday, October 20th. The event is open to the public, co-hosted by Southeast Community College. Early [registration](#) is now open through October 6th; registration will resume through October 19th.

A proclamation signed by Governor Pete Ricketts was released today by the Office of the CIO, affirming the State's support of the "STOP. THINK. CONNECT." cyber security awareness campaign organized by the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA). The campaign aims to help people understand risks that come with using the Internet, as well as the importance of practicing safe online behavior. The State's Office of the CIO will lead a month-long social media campaign to increase awareness of safe online habits amongst Nebraskans.

"As more Nebraskans take their businesses online, cybersecurity takes on added importance," said Governor Pete Ricketts. "Information security is our shared responsibility at home, in the workplace, and throughout our communities. I encourage Nebraskans to take time this month to ensure their information and devices are protected."

"We must all be vigilant," added State Information Security Officer, Patrick Wright, "it is important to understand the risks associated with conducting ourselves over the Internet and be cognizant of safe habits that we can all practice when sharing information with email contacts, apps and services."

Cybersecurity Awareness Month was launched by the NCSA & the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in October 2004. According to the NCSA's website, the overarching theme for Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2020 is "Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart." The theme empowers individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting their part of cyberspace, emphasizing a key message: "If you connect it, protect it."

Resources:

- <https://www.stopthinkconnect.org/>
- <https://staysafeonline.org/>
- https://twitter.com/Nebraska_OCIO

Registration link: 2020 Nebraska Cyber Security Conference

<http://events.egov.com/eventreg/NE/event.htm?name=2020nebraskacybersecurityconference>

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