Homeland Security Act of 2002

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 was signed into law on November 25, 2002 in response to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The Act brought together approximately 22 separate federal agencies to establish the Department of Homeland Security and sets forth the primary missions of the Department.

The act has a large number of data-related provisions. In consolidating federal groups into a single agency, it also addresses how their IT systems and data will be consolidated and connected. It requires the agency to create secure communications and IT infrastructure and advanced capabilities to access, receive, and analyze data and information. It addresses privacy, access to information, and research on technologies.

The Act has been amended over 30 times since its original passage.

Source: