Evidence Act 101

TITLE II—OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA ACT
Overview

• Background
• Highlights of Title II
• Connections and Collaboration at ED
Background

• 1995: Term “open data” first appeared
• 2009/10: Open Government Directive and Data.gov
• 2013: Open Data Policy—Managing Information as an Asset (M-13-13)
• 2015: Digital Accountability and Transparency Act
• 2017: Key provisions of the bill incorporated into Title II of the Evidence Act
Highlights of Title II

• Definitions
• Make data “open by default”
• Information dissemination
• Data inventory and Federal Data Catalogue
• Statutory responsibilities of Chief Data Officers
Definitions

• Data: recorded information, regardless of form or medium

• Machine-readable: in a format that can be easily processed by a computer without human intervention while ensuring no semantic meaning is lost

• Open Government Data Asset: a public data asset that is—
  ◦ Machine-readable
  ◦ Available (or could be made available) in an open format
  ◦ Not encumbered by restrictions, other than intellectual property rights…that would impede the use or reuse of such asset
  ◦ Based on an underlying open standard that is maintained by a standards organization
Make Data Open by Default

• OMB Guidance on agency Open Data Plans
  ◦ Considering privacy, security, costs/benefits, intellectual property, and confidential business information

• Agency Open Data Plan in the Strategic Information Resources Plan
  ◦ Includes a process to evaluate and improve the timeliness, completeness, consistency, accuracy, usefulness, and availability of open government data assets
  ◦ Identifies priority data assets for disclosure in the public interest
  ◦ Includes a method for collecting data usage metrics
Information Dissemination

• Ensure that any public data asset of the agency is machine-readable

• Engage the public in using public data assets and encourage collaboration by
  ◦ Publishing data usage
  ◦ Allowing the public to request specific data assets to be prioritized for disclosure
  ◦ Hosting challenges, competitions, events, or other initiatives to create additional value from agency public data assets
Data Inventory and Federal Data Catalogue

• Each agency shall “to the extent practicable, develop and maintain a comprehensive data inventory that accounts for all data assets created by, collected by, under the control or direction of, or maintained by the agency,” including:
  ◦ Metadata on each data asset
  ◦ Methods by which the public may access or request access to the data asset

• GSA shall “maintain a single public interface online as a point of entry dedicated to sharing agency data assets with the public”
  ◦ Builds on data.gov

• GSA shall “develop and maintain an online repository of tools, best practices, and schema standards to facilitate the adoption of open data practices”
  ◦ resources.data.gov
CDO Responsibilities

• Governance
  ◦ Leading the agency’s Data Governance Body
  ◦ Coordinating with other agency officials to support evidence building
  ◦ Supporting the agency’s learning agenda, including supporting the Evaluation Officer in obtaining data
  ◦ Engaging agency staff, the public, and contractors in using data and collaborating to improve data use

• Data Lifecycle Management
  ◦ Managing the agency’s data assets
  ◦ Following data management best practices
  ◦ Leading the development of the Open Data Plan
  ◦ Managing the agency’s OMB clearance process under the PRA
Connections and Collaboration at ED

• Data Governance Board
  ○ Includes senior career officials from each office, plus the Evaluation Officer, the Statistical Official, and the Performance Improvement Officer
  ○ The CDO, EO, and SO meet monthly for dedicated time to discuss coordination

• Data Lifecycle Management
  ○ Completed a Data Maturity Assessment for each office and enterprise-wide. Using the results to develop the ED Data Strategy by engaging staff from across the agency to focus on top priorities.

• Information Dissemination
  ○ The development of the ED Open Data Platform engaged data stewards from across the agency
Thank you!

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