Kerry's voting record on major IT bills

Services Acquisition Reform Act, became law as part of 2004 Defense authorization bill in November 2003
Did not vote; no SARA legislation in the Senate version of authorization bill

E-Government Act, included the Federal Information Security Management Act, became law in December 2003
Original co-sponsor

Government Information Security Reform Act, became law as part of 2001 Defense authorization bill in October 2000
Voted for bill

Government Paperwork Elimination Act, became law as part of Transportation appropriations act in October 1998
Voted for bill

Clinger-Cohen Act, became law as part of the Defense authorization bill in February 1996
Voted against bill

Federal Acquisition Reform Act, became law as part of Defense authorization bill in February 1996
Voted against bill

Paperwork Reduction Act, became law in May 1995
Voted for bill

Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act, became law in October 1994
Passed by voice vote

Government Performance and Results Act, became law in August 1993
Passed by voice vote

Computer Security Act, became law in January 1988
Passed by voice vote

The Bush administration's IT achievements

Six months into his first term, President Bush unveiled the President's Management Agenda. Through the PMA, the administration compels agencies to set performance measures to make sure major initiatives are getting the right results.

The PMA increased the administration's attention to e-government—one of the agenda's five priorities. Specifically, it instructed agencies to develop enterprise architectures, justify systems investments and assure that IT projects are well-managed, secure and focused on achieving results.

The following is a snapshot of some of the Bush administration's chief IT and e-government initiatives:

Quicksilver projects: The 25 e-gov efforts represent the first broad attempt to consolidate IT projects across agencies based on lines of business and drive services to the Web. So far, agency teams have implemented more than half the 25 initiatives and changed the way many citizens interact with the government.

Lines of Business initiative: These five efforts have been dubbed the second wave of e-government. Working groups have begun submitting recommendations to OMB to consolidate the back-office systems for financial management, human resources, grants administration, case management and health care.

Federal Enterprise Architecture: To create a sweeping approach to IT implementation, OMB has developed an overarching plan for integrating IT governmentwide. The FEA has five reference models based on mission, data, IT components, performance metrics and technical standards. OMB also created a database on agencies' lines of business to identify opportunities for collaboration. Agencies have been developing internal architecture blueprints to align with the FEA.

Business cases: The administration began requiring that agencies submit business cases with their budget requests. Agencies must justify their spending plans for IT projects, identify performance metrics, name qualified project managers and do away with duplicative applications. OMB has further prodded cross-agency efforts by instructing agencies to submit joint business cases where applicable.

Cybersecurity: OMB has pushed agencies to harden networks and systems. So far, agencies have reviewed and certified the security of 70 percent of systems, compared to 26 percent three years ago, according to OMB. The National Institute of Standards and Technology developed a series of standards for agencies to follow. The administration supported the passage of the Federal Information Security Management Act and over the past four years has more than doubled the funding for security, to about $4.2 billion annually.

IT spending: Through its authority under the Clinger-Cohen Act, OMB struck hard at agencies slow to consolidate redundant IT efforts and curb spending. The administration issued letters that directed agencies to consolidate funding for some projects or face losing the funds entirely.