Linux Server Standard

Introduction
In an effort to streamline Linux server operations, leverage volume purchasing discounts and take advantage of available technological interoperability advancements, OMES Information Services is standardized on a single Linux server distribution. To manage supportability, OMES limits the number of Linux distributions supported in the server environment.

Purpose
This document establishes the OMES Linux server distribution standard.

Definitions
Linux – An open-source operating system based on Unix.

Standard
The OMES standard is to use a fully supported and licensed SUSE Linux Enterprise Server. If SUSE Linux Enterprise Server is not an appropriate solution, an acceptable alternative is a fully supported and licensed Red Hat Enterprise Linux and Amazon Linux.

With prior manager or director approval, it is acceptable to use non-supported versions of SUSE Linux Enterprise Server and Red Hat Enterprise Linux. The version must be openSUSE Alma Linux or Rocky Linux.

All Linux servers will have agency mandated software (security, logging, etc.) installed and will be managed via SUSE manager. All exceptions will have written manager or director approval, stating why the exception is required. All Linux distributions chosen must be current and not End of Life.

Compliance
This standard shall take effect upon publication and is made pursuant to Title 62 O.S. §§ 34.11.1 and 34.12 and Title 62 O.S. § 35.8. OMES IS may amend and publish the amended standards policies and standards at any time. Compliance is expected with all published policies and standards, and any published amendments thereof. Employees found in violation of this standard may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Rationale
To ensure efficient, secure, and cost-effective delivery of essential public services, all state agency IT purchases and projects must receive central approval. This allows the Chief Information Officer to evaluate agency needs and capabilities, strengthen data protection and security, and streamline and consolidate systems to reduce costs for taxpayers.

Revision history
This standard is subject to periodic review to ensure relevancy.

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Approved by: Dan Cronin, Chief Information Officer	