A Brief Survey of Internet Policies

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Over the past two years, government organizations have increasingly begun to use the Internet to disseminate and gather information and to offer services to the public. As these applications multiply, concerns surrounding appropriate use, management, and value have emerged. In so short a time, states, localities, and federal agencies have only begun to explore the possibilities and understand the complexities of the Internet. As a result, Internet use policies are only in their infancy. As part of an Internet Services Testbed project, the Center for Technology in Government collected and reviewed existing government policies between April and July 1996. This paper presents the topics that were considered most important and how they were treated in policy documents.