A motion by Kansas, on behalf of the Certification Committee to amend the rule relating to the certification cycle:

Rule 501.2 – Certification of service providers

The certification process for CSP candidates shall take place as described below and shown in Appendix A.

- 1. The Executive Director shall issue a request for service providers interested in responding to the terms and conditions for participation as a certified service provider.
- 2. Interested candidates shall respond to the request by submitting a completed self-evaluation assessment (see *Minimum Standards*, Appendix C within 60 days of Item 1. The Executive Director shall notify the Certification Committee regarding candidates for further evaluation.
- 3. The Certification Committee shall review documentation submitted by candidates, screen and identify candidates for further evaluation and testing, and conduct site reviews within 90 days of completion of Item 2.
- 4. The Certification Committee shall recommend candidate for system testing within 15 days of completion of Item 3. Any candidates not recommended for further evaluation may respond to the next request .
- 5. Testing Central shall manage the system(s) testing between the CSP candidate and the member states. The criteria to begin testing must be met prior to the initiation of testing. Reference SST Testing Process for Certification of Service Providers, Appendix E). Upon successful completion of testing, each member state shall recommend certification of the CSP candidate(s) to the Certification Committee. Testing must be completed within 5 months of completion of item 4.
- 6. The Certification Committee shall submit the recommended candidate(s) to the Executive Director within 15 days of completion of item 5.
- 7. The Executive Director shall submit the recommended candidate(s) to the Executive Committee for certification within 15 days of completion of Item 6.
- 8. The Executive Committee shall act on the new certification recommendation(s) within 15 days of completion of item 7. Any candidate(s) not recommended for certification may respond to the next request.
- 9. Contracts shall be negotiated and signed by officers designated by the Executive Committee. To remain compliant with the contract, Certified Service Providers shall be operational thru the term of the contract.