



*State of California*

# LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

June 9, 2005

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The Honorable Gloria Negrete McLeod  
Member, California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 5016  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 53**

Dear Assemblymember McLeod:

The Little Hoover Commission supports your measure, AB 53, as amended April 19, 2005, which would consolidate the functions of the Health and Human Services and the Stephen P. Teale data centers. The Commission bases its support on its May 2005 analysis of the Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 2 to Create a Department of Technology Services. The Commission concluded that consolidating the two data centers has the potential to yield savings and improve the State's use of technology.

The Commission also made several recommendations to improve the Governor's Reorganization Plan, including action to:

- Provide compensation sufficient to hire an accomplished technology leader with proven ability to manage a major technology services center and consolidate technology and telecommunications functions.
- Grant waivers to give the department budget, hiring and procurement flexibility in exchange for greater accountability for outcomes.
- Ensure the Technology Services Board has technology expertise and advice from outside state government.
- Require benchmarking and performance reporting.
- Require independent assessment and verification of welfare project management.

Because AB 53 codifies the elements of GRP No. 2 and addresses Commission recommendations for improving how the State uses technology to serve Californians, the Commission is taking an active support position on the measure. If you feel my presence and testimony at a hearing would be helpful, please let me know, and I will make every attempt to be available.

If you are interested in amending your legislation to include some or all of the Commission's recommendations for improving GRP No. 2, the Commission would be happy to work with you on appropriate amending language.

Sincerely,

James P. Mayer  
Executive Director

c: Commissioners