



July 30, 2004 Friday

California State Employees Association Response to California Performance Review

DATELINE: SACRAMENTO, Calif. July 30

Statement by J.J. Jelincic, President of the California State Employees Association, in response to the release of the California Performance Review report:

Our members want high quality public services for the people of California. Therefore, we have always supported efforts to make government services more efficient and effective.

We are pleased that in developing this report, the administration sought input from state employees who actually do the work of state government. We have been told that the state employees involved in the process had 3,783 total years of state service and an average of nearly 18 years of seniority.

While we have not had an opportunity to read the complete report, we are pleased that it contains several proposals that CSEA has recommended or endorsed in the past (such as the consolidation of job classifications and better monitoring of the testing process).

However, we are deeply concerned by suggestions in the report that call for more politization of state jobs and other attempts to privatize state government. We have already seen many examples in Texas, Florida, Virginia and elsewhere of the failure of privatization. And we doubt the people of California want to turn over their government to the likes of Enron and Halliburton.

I am honored that Gov. Schwarzenegger has selected me to serve on the California Performance Review Commission. In the coming weeks, we will be holding public hearings across the state to learn how the citizens of California feel about the CPR proposals. I am hopeful that our commission and the Schwarzenegger administration will consider the concerns and suggestions of thousands of dedicated state employees who know best how state government works and how to fix it.

CSEA, SEIU Local 1000 represents more than 140,000 state workers and retirees.

SOURCE California State Employees Association