

Commission on Streamlining Government

Annual Report *on* **Status/Implementation** *of* **Reorganization Plan**



ADOPTED
November 1, 2011

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I. Introduction

INTRODUCTION

Act 491 of the 2009 Regular Session established the Commission on Streamlining Government. The Act acknowledged that the state faced a severe decline in revenues through fiscal year 2012 which, if no corrective action was taken, would leave a significant funding gap in state government expenditures and create serious sustainability issues in financing of state obligations. Therefore, it was essential that the state act to reduce the cost of state government, through all means available, including efficiencies, economies, greater effectiveness, and other means to streamline government in order to overcome the projected severe revenue reductions and to ensure that available state tax dollars were being spent efficiently and effectively.

The Commission was charged to (1) examine each agency's constitutional and statutory activities, functions, programs, services, powers, duties, and responsibilities to determine which of these activities, functions, programs, services, powers, duties, and responsibilities can be (a) eliminated, (b) streamlined, (c) consolidated, (d) privatized, or (e) outsourced in an effort to reduce the size of state government; (2) target agencies whose activities, functions, programs, or services can be consolidated or eliminated, in addition to identifying opportunities for privatizing and outsourcing current state activities, functions, programs, or services, and (3) examine the necessity and performance of activities, functions, programs, and services to ensure that they are meeting current performance standards effectively and efficiently and that they are meeting the needs of Louisiana citizens.

The Act defined "agency" to include any office, department, board, commission, institution, division, instrumentality, or functional group, heretofore existing or hereafter created, that is authorized to exercise, or that does exercise, any function in the executive branch of state government. However, the Act specifically excluded consideration of any public institution of postsecondary education, any postsecondary education governing or management board, or any entity under the control of a public institution of postsecondary education or postsecondary education governing or management board. as that matter was the subject of another commission.

The Commission on Streamlining Government organized and held its initial meeting in late July 2010, elected Senator Jack Donahue as chairman and Mr. Roy O. Martin, III, as vice chairman; adopted rules of procedure, and established five Advisory Groups - Civil Service and Employee Benefits, Efficiency and Benchmarking, IT Integration, Elimination of Duplicative and Non-Essential Services, and Outsourcing, Privatization, and Risk Management.

The advisory groups held forty-six public hearings on proposals and received testimony. The Commission conducted public hearings throughout the state, including Monroe, Shreveport, Alexandria, Lake Charles, and Harahan, as a listening tour to receive comments from citizens. The Commission also held seventeen meetings in the four month period receiving information and

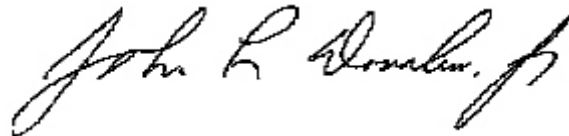
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discussing and debating proposals.

The Commission adopted 238 recommendations and in December 2009, released its "Initial Recommendations" together with a two volume report on the recommendations.

Pursuant to Act 491, the Commission then issued a "Reorganization Plan" of its recommendations in January 2010 followed by an "Annual Report on Status/Implementation of Reorganization Plan" in January 2011.

The following report represents the Commission's annual report for 2011 and also its final report under Act 491 as by its terms, the Commission will expire in January 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John R. Donahue, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Senator Jack Donahue, Chairman

November 1, 2011

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The invaluable services of the following to the Commission on Streamlining Government are gratefully acknowledged.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Senator Jack Donahue, *Chairman*

Roy O. Martin, *Vice Chairman*

Chair of the Advisory Group on Outsourcing, Privatization & Risk Management

Angele Davis and Paul Rainwater, *Commissioner of Administration*

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Chair of the Advisory Group on Efficiency and Benchmarking

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Chair of the Advisory Group on IT Integration

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