

# A More Efficient State Government

One key area in the Governor's Condition of the State address was his call to reorganize state government so that it is more efficient and accountable to the citizens of Iowa.

The Governor has issued Executive Order #20, which put into place changes in state government that will result in more efficiencies and cost savings to Iowa taxpayers. Other areas targeted by the Governor for change will require legislative action.

The Legislature knows the importance of changing the way state government delivers its services. As a result, the Legislature has also made recommendations for change; some of which overlap with the Governor's priorities. The Governor and Legislature are working together in these key areas:

## ***Delivering Government Services More Efficiently***

- Eliminating the least efficient print shops.
- Consolidating administrative functions in the Department of Human Services.
- Consolidating mailrooms, and modifying mail delivery policies.
- Expanding the use of state garages to reduce the cost of contracted private garages.
- Conducting energy efficiency retrofits for state buildings.
- Improving the coordination of law enforcement at state parks and increasing volunteer and intern programs there.

## ***E-Government Solutions***

- Consolidating information technology (IT) planning and operations.
- Consolidating state e-mail systems.
- Consolidating wireless equipment purchasing and service contracts.
- Negotiating a statewide IT service contract.
- Negotiating a statewide IT and office equipment maintenance contract.

## ***Managing State Assets***

- Reducing the state vehicle fleet and changing mileage and vehicle take-home policies.
- Consolidating the Department of Natural Resources offices in Des Moines.

## ***Improving Financial Management***

- Requiring purchasing from master contracts.
- Improving debt collections.
- Strengthening Medicaid integrity efforts – Part One.
- Claiming federal reimbursement for eligible inmate hospital care.

## ***Legislative Recommendations***

Some of the Legislature's recommendations that will be considered include:

- E-government consolidation efforts led by a Chief Information Officer, who is appointed by the Governor.
- Require all executive branch agencies to participate in consolidated purchasing.
- Establish a workgroup/ consortium to collaborate on best practices to implement the best cost savings and savings for the state.
- Explore interstate and intergovernmental purchasing opportunities.
- Require all reports to the General Assembly to be submitted electronically.
- Require an in-depth look at state government every five years.
- Increase the span of control with managers vs. employees.
- Expand LEAN programs throughout state government to include identifying and quantifying cost-savings.

- Eliminate certain boards and commissions and develop criteria to consider before the Legislature creates any new commission.
- Provide incentives to develop and implement more web-based training for internal and external customers.

Governor Culver has projected that enactment of his recommendations will save Iowa taxpayers over \$340 million in the first year and \$1.7 billion over the next five years.