MyFlorida.com

The Administrative and Operations Arm of Florida's Government

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES

JEB BUSH, GOVERNOR

WILLIAM S. SIMON, SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2004

CONTACT: JOHN KUCZWANSKI
(850) 921-5266

GOVERNOR'S CENTER FOR EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES NEW PROCESS TO MANAGE STATE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING

TALLAHASSEE – Department of Management Services Secretary William S. Simon, Chair of the Center for Efficient Government, today announced a new robust set of standards and guidelines to manage each stage of any outsourcing initiative. The new "Gate Process" will provide a more transparent and deliberative review of state contracts with private companies. The Center, which was created through an Executive Order signed by Governor Jeb Bush in March, was formed to develop and oversee the state's outsourcing activities.

"Florida has the opportunity to be a national leader in its stewardship of taxpayer dollars," said Governor Bush. "Greater accountability coupled with a more thoughtful and deliberative process will ensure the promise of providing the best services in the most efficient, cost-effective manner."

The centralized Gate Process was created for initiating, reviewing and evaluating potential outsourcing initiatives in an open and fair manner. The process encourages and manages competition for state government services. This process consists of stringent standards, templates, guidelines and a reporting mechanism to the Legislature and Governor for each stage of any initiative. The Gate Process includes five stages of any project following it from beginning to end. They include:

- Business Case Development,
- Procurement,
- Contract Management,
- Transition Management and
- Post Implementation Performance Measurement.

Each of these stages will now have standards an agency must meet to move forward to the next stage of a project. Members of the Legislature as well as the public will also be able to track all of the Center's work, at anytime through the Center's website, accessible through www.myflorida.com.

"This process will help us determine whether, the best value for the dollar can be achieved by contracting with the private sector or state government. The Gate Process can lead to greater savings and performance," said Secretary Simon. "State government meets a wide array of needs for our residents including education, health and social services, environmental programs and public safety, but the principles of fiscal discipline demand that the State strive to get the best value and this new process will help provide assurances that we are getting the best deal for our citizens."

The Center has also released its guidelines for the development of a business case, a new mandatory rigorous exercise for agencies wishing to outsource a service. The business case must include requirements for employee transition. This will provide the Legislature and public with a clear demonstration of value added to the State and a roadmap for how a project would be developed, procured, implemented and managed.

The Center's Oversight Board, comprised of five executive agency heads and chaired by Secretary William Simon, will oversee the new process to provide an added layer of accountability for large procurements of services. The Board of the Center will review every project with a contract estimated or valued at more than $10 million per fiscal year at each key decision point or Gate. Other board members include Jose Abreu, Secretary of the Department of Transportation, Dr. John Agwunobi, Secretary of the Department of Health, Dr. Jim Zingale, Executive Director of the Department of Revenue and Susan Pareigis, Director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

For more information on the Gate Process or the Center for Efficient Government please visit, http://dms.myflorida.com/administration/center_for_efficient_government or www.myflorida.com

# # #