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January 4, 2012

To Interested Parties:

Last year the Assembly Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review held a series of hearings to explore issues related to special districts. As part of that effort, I asked the Legislative Analyst (LAO) to evaluate three questions regarding the efficiency and accountability of special districts, and the effectiveness of Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs).

I am releasing the LAO's response in an effort to keep the conversation going among policymakers, stakeholders and the public regarding the role of special districts in California, and how to best ensure transparency and accountability. I invite interested parties to provide the committee with feedback regarding the report and especially on the options it presents for Legislative consideration.

A number of the suggestions by the LAO are worthy of further consideration. We will continue to explore and develop these ideas throughout the year, and will potentially introduce legislation in 2013 related to these ideas. I would like to thank the staff of the Legislative Analyst for their work on this issue and I look forward to continuing the discussion with interested parties.

Sincerely,

ROGER DICKINSON

Chair, Assembly Committee on Accountability & Administrative Review

RD/nc