

**Introduced by Senator Walters**

February 26, 2009

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An act to add Title 21 (commencing with Section 99600) to the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 502, as introduced, Walters. State agency Web sites: information. Existing law imposes specified duties on state governmental agencies and provides for public access to government records.

This bill would require, by no later than January 1, 2010, each state department and agency to develop and operate a searchable Internet Web site, as defined. The bill would also require the searchable Internet Web site to include specified information relating to each expenditure of state funds, as defined, made by that state department or agency in the most recently completed fiscal year, the ability of the user to view information in a format that may be downloaded and managed by the user, and the ability of users to provide input regarding the utility of, and recommendations for, improvements to the searchable Internet Web site.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Title 21 (commencing with Section 99600) is
- 2 added to the Government Code, to read:

## 1 TITLE 21. TAXPAYER TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2009

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3 99600. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
4 Taxpayer Transparency Act of 2009.

5 99601. (a) For purposes of this title:

6 (1) “Expenditure of state funds” means the expenditure or  
7 transfer of any state appropriated or nonappropriated funds in an  
8 amount in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) by any  
9 department, agency, office, or entity of state government in forms  
10 including, but not limited to:

11 (A) Grants.

12 (B) Contracts.

13 (C) Subcontracts.

14 (D) Purchase orders.

15 (E) Tax refunds, rebates, and credits.

16 (F) Expenditures from the Reserve for Revenue Fluctuations.

17 (2) “Searchable Internet Web site” means an Internet Web site  
18 that allows the public to search and aggregate information  
19 described in Section 99602.20 (b) “Expenditure of state funds” shall not include the transfer  
21 of funds between two departments, agencies, offices, or entities  
22 of state government, or the transfer of state or federal assistance  
23 payments to an individual recipient or beneficiary of those  
24 assistance payments.25 99602. (a) No later than January 1, 2010, with assistance from  
26 the office of the State Chief Information Officer, the Department  
27 of Finance, and the Governor’s office, each state department and  
28 agency shall develop and operate a searchable Internet Web site,  
29 accessible by the public at no cost, that includes:30 (1) For each expenditure of state funds, information including,  
31 but not limited to:32 (A) The name and principal location or residence of each entity  
33 or other recipient of the funds.

34 (B) The amount of expenditure.

35 (C) The type of transaction.

36 (D) The identity of the department, agency, office, or other  
37 entity of state government making the expenditure.

38 (E) The budget program source for the expenditure.

39 (F) A description of the purpose of the expenditure.

1 (G) A description of any item purchased pursuant to the  
2 expenditure.

3 (H) Any other information deemed relevant by the Department  
4 of Finance and the Governor's office.

5 (2) The ability of the user to view information on the searchable  
6 Internet Web site in a format that may be downloaded and managed  
7 by the user with appropriate software.

8 (3) The ability of users to provide input to the Department of  
9 Finance regarding the utility of the searchable Internet Web site  
10 and recommendations for improvements to the searchable Internet  
11 Web site.

12 (b) The searchable Internet Web site shall include information  
13 for the 2008–09 fiscal year no later than January 1, 2010, and  
14 thereafter, the searchable Internet Web site shall include  
15 information for the most recently completed fiscal year by June  
16 30th each year.

17 (c) Each department, agency, and entity of state government  
18 shall fully cooperate with the Department of Finance and the  
19 Governor's office in compiling and providing all information  
20 necessary to comply with the requirements of this section.

21 (d) Nothing in this section requires disclosure of information  
22 deemed confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under  
23 state or federal law.