

ISSUE	FINDING	RECOMMENDATION	FY 2004-05	5 YEAR CUMULATIVE	
Public Safety Chapter					
PS 01	Creating the Department of Public Safety & Homeland Security	Authority and responsibility for public safety, homeland security, fire and emergency management and victim services are divided among more than 80 separate state entities, creating confusing command structures and miscommunication.	State departments should be consolidated into a single Department of Public Safety & Homeland Security	CBE	CBE
PS 02	Consolidate Law Enforcement Functions to Ensure Public Safety and Homeland Security	State resources for law enforcement and homeland security are currently not being maximized.	The functions and responsibilities of the California Office of Homeland Security should be transferred to a Department of Public Safety and Homeland Security (DPS&HS). State law enforcement functions should be further consolidated into a new Division of Law Enforcement to enhance the state's ability to serve and protect the public.	CBE	CBE
PS 03	Create a Division of Fire Protection and Emergency Management	Roles, functions, and responsibilities for statewide fire protection and emergency management are divided among a number of different agencies.	Create the California Division of Fire Protection and Emergency Management within the Department of Public Safety and Homeland Security.	CBE	CBE
PS 04	Consolidate Victim Services	Funding for victim service providers and compensation to victims of violent crimes is currently spread across a number of different state offices, boards, and departments.	A new Division of Victim Services (DVS) should be created and placed under the proposed Department of Public Safety and Homeland Security (DPSHS). Once consolidated, legislation should be pursued to consolidate some of the ten secondary victim-related state programs in the future.	CBE	CBE
PS 05	California Military Department (California National Guard)	The California Military Department continues to remain a critical part of California's public safety and homeland security capability.	The California Military Department should remain as a stand alone department, but with a coordinated relationship with the newly formed Department of Public Safety and Homeland Security.	CBE	CBE

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PS 06	Peace Officer Statutory Review	The Department of Social Services employs peace officers whose jobs involve minimal law enforcement activity.	The Department of Social Services should reclassify its peace officer positions to non-peace officers.	CBE	CBE
PS 07	Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Assessment	Law enforcement information analysis and infrastructure protection assessment functions are currently spread throughout several, often competing state agencies. These functions are often inadequate, in large part because of funding issues.	The law enforcement information analysis and infrastructure protection assessment should be consolidated into an Office of Information, Analysis and Assessment.	CBE	CBE
PS 08	Consolidate the Department of Health Services Medi-Cal Fraud Investigations Branch	The Medi-Cal Fraud Investigation Branch suffers from disproportionate staffing throughout the state, discontinued training and lack of oversight of a law enforcement unit.	The Department of Health Services' Medi-Cal Fraud Investigation Branch should be merged with other public safety programs to achieve long-term savings, compliance with required training and the ability to deploy these peace officers in a terrorist attack or emergency.	CBE	CBE
PS 09	Create a California Hazard Mitigation Advisory Council	Several state departments and commissions lack a strategic approach to hazard mitigation.	A Hazard Mitigation Advisory Council should be created to provide a central coordination to hazard mitigation issues.	CBE	CBE
PS 10	Establish a Contingency Fund for the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services	California's Office of Emergency Services experiences difficulty in coordinating response during emergencies and reimbursing appropriate agencies.	Legislation should be pursued to establish a contingency fund to reimburse state agencies for costs incurred for responding to emergencies.	CBE	CBE
PS 11	Change Existing Law to Help the Investigations Unit Within the California Employees' Retirement System to Prosecute Disability Fraud Cases	Current law hinders the ability of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) to investigate and prosecute disability fraud cases, and is inconsistent with laws governing other state agencies' anti-fraud units.	State law should be amended to define what constitutes disability retirement fraud, the penalties to be imposed and language that would set forth the penalties to deny or reduce retirement allowances for individuals convicted of disability retirement fraud.	CBE	CBE

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PS 12	Medi-Cal Provider Fraud Investigations Should be Done by the California Department of Justice	Existing law establishes the California Department of Justice as the only authority to investigate and prosecute fraud by Medi-Cal providers. However, most of this work is done by the California Department of Health Services as "preliminary investigations". This results in a forfeiture of federal reimbursements.	The California Department of Health Services should work with the Department of Justice to transfer the Medi-Cal provider fraud investigations to DOJ.	\$1,200,000	\$7,600,000
PS 13	Improving Services to Victims of Crime	The current Victim Compensation program and the state's victim/witness assistance centers are administered separately, resulting in unnecessary duplication of efforts.	The administration of the victim/witness assistance program operated by the Office of Emergency Services should be consolidated into the Victim Compensation Program. Other strategies should be used to improve funding to centers to better assist victims of crime.	CBE	CBE
PS 14	Make the Victim Compensation Payment Process More Efficient	The average processing time for a claim from a victim of a crime suffering financial damages is 70 days, while some are as old as 180 days.	The state should improve is information technology systems to access critical data needed in processing claims.	CBE	CBE

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