



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 1, 2013

### *Department of General Services 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

October 1, 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of legislation that created the California Department of General Services (DGS).

In 1963, my father, Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, signed the bill that brought the department into existence. Various commissions and other groups seeking to streamline and centralize state business operations had been recommending the creation of a general state services department since the 1950s. When DGS became a reality, the scope, size, and complexity of state government had become so great it was obvious that a centralized agency was needed to handle the State of California's ever-growing business services functions to provide greater economy in state government.

Fifty years later, DGS continues to serve as the business manager for the State of California. General Services' portfolio of responsibilities encompasses well over a dozen distinct services and functions, including a full range of real estate management and design functions, overseeing the procurement of tens of thousands of different goods and services, conducting administrative hearings, printing state documents, securing insurance for state assets, management of vehicle fleets and more.

The way in which DGS has executed its responsibilities has garnered it awards and recognition as varied as the services it provides. They include leadership in energy conservation and in environmentally preferable purchasing, promoting small businesses and disabled veterans' business enterprises, excellence in financial reporting, and support of diversity.

Congratulations to DGS, its leadership, and its employees, for their continued commitment to the department's overall vision of excellence in the business of government.

Sincerely,

  
EDMUND G. BROWN JR.