

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER W-163-97

WHEREAS, the State of California has a multi-billion dollar investment in numerous information technology systems and equipment responsible for providing services and improving public safety for all Californians; and

WHEREAS, most computers and automated systems worldwide are threatened by the Year 2000 problem which, because previous date standards represented years with only two digits instead of four, fails to recognize dates beyond 1999; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of California's automated systems is at risk from the Year 2000 problem and, unless immediately addressed, a great many automated systems with mission-critical applications will be negatively impacted; and

WHEREAS, this Administration and the Legislature recognize the Department of Information Technology as the lead agency to coordinate and develop a comprehensive solution to the State's Year 2000 problem; and

WHEREAS, this Administration and the Legislature, through the Department of Information Technology's Year 2000 Program have raised awareness of the Year 2000 issue and have proactively directed State agencies, departments, boards and commissions to assess and correct their Year 2000 problems; and

WHEREAS, the complex nature of the problem and the time necessary for California entities to detect Year 2000 flaws, devise solutions, and adequately test information systems make time of the essence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PETE WILSON, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this order to become effective immediately:

1. Year 2000 solutions shall be a State priority. With due consideration for mandated initiatives, each agency shall defer commencing new computer projects until essential systems are Year 2000 compliant.
2. Each agency of the State shall be responsible to find and fix Year 2000 problems in its essential systems in accordance with the Department of Information Technology's California 2000 Program, no later than December 31, 1998. Each agency shall also protect its essential systems from corruption by other systems which are not Year 2000 compliant. Agencies shall achieve compliance through existing resources.
3. State agencies shall not purchase new systems, hardware, software, or equipment that is not Year 2000 compliant or fails to contain Year 2000 contract language.
4. The Department of Information Technology shall continue to coordinate the State's information technology Year 2000 Program. The department shall:
 - a. Define Year 2000 compliance standards for the State.
 - b. Require quarterly reports from each State agency that is not Year 2000 compliant.

- c. Provide Year 2000 progress reports quarterly to the Administration and the Legislature.
 - d. Foster solutions to the problems presented by embedded microchips in automated devices.
 - e. Address Year 2000 legal issues which may directly or indirectly affect State services.
 - f. Promote awareness of the Year 2000 problem to California public entities and private industry and underscore the need to proactively implement solutions.
5. Agendas shall report to the Department of Information Technology that information which the department may required.
6. Unless subsequently extended, this Executive Order shall sunset June 30, 2001.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to, be affixed this 3rd day of October, 1997.

Pete Wilson, Governor of California