

## Testimony Against SB0472

Please vote against SB0472.

After 40 years with the federal government as an auditor, it was my experience that forming a committee to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of an organization just made the existing process that much more ineffective and inefficient. Usually, those on the committee had no real idea how the departments worked and just added an additional layer of overhead for those trying to get things done.

The federal government has tried for the past 30 years to improve its operations by establishing performance measures for every department. The first attempt was the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA)

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-107/pdf/STATUTE-107-Pg285.pdf>

It did not achieve its goals so Congress passed the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-111publ352/pdf/PLAW-111publ352.pdf>

For GPRA, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), oversaw the creation of metrics and established government-wide guidance to assist each department. Supposedly the key to success was to establish meaningful and, more importantly, measurable metrics, that showed how well the departments were meeting their mandated objectives. The GAO also helped set standards for CPA firms to audit the process and the underlying calculations.

Despite the best intentions and efforts, essentially, these two laws only helped pad the income of the contracted CPA firms. Despite 30 years of trying, most of the public would doubt that the federal government has become a model of effectiveness and efficiency despite all the effort and money spent to improve key service to the public.

Most of the employees and lower management where I worked viewed GPRA as a gigantic waste of time and a drain of resources.

Bill SB0472 looks like a mini version of GPRA at the State level.

Unlike the federal process where each Department had GPRA committees that were selected from within the organization, this bill will have committee members that span the entire state government and will contain politicians or high level appointees from politicians who will have little or no understanding of the many and varied permitting and licensing processes in the State.

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Somehow they will be expected to catalog all these processes and then recommend changes for streamlining all these processes in just 6 months. The bill does not discuss the creation of uniform reporting so that each department sends its requested data in a format that will lend itself to the summarization needed to produce a meaningful report in the short time allowed. To accomplish the goals of this bill, the committee members are going to need a great deal of assistance from those who actually work in these processes, thus taking time away from their basic job functions. This will result in even poorer service to the public.

Instead of the Transparent Government Act of 2024, you will have the Made Government Even Worse Act of 2024.

Please vote against SB0472.

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