

May 30, 2007

Dear

Attached you will find a four-page report produced by the State of Oregon for its citizens. This is the latest in a number of these reports coordinated by AGA's Citizen-Centric Government Reporting Program. Oregon is the first *state* to produce such a report, and it joins municipalities such as Saco, Maine and Portland, Oregon in this effort. I commend Oregon State Controller John Radford and his team for their work in creating it.

We invite your state to join Oregon at the ground level of this initiative. By participating in this important endeavor, you can create a product that proves your commitment to transparency in government. It is my hope that this initiative will take off rapidly around the country, raising our profession's profile in government accountability across the board.

We live in an era in which citizens are demanding to know more about the government's use of their tax dollars. The Citizen-Centric Reporting Program encourages governments to produce and publish an annual 'state of the government' report that is no more than four pages long. We all know (or at least suspect) that government reports are too large and complicated for citizens to want to read them or be able to understand them. These reports provide understandable information to citizens about the financial condition and performance of the government. AGA believes that the net effect will be to make governments more accountable to their citizens and help the American public develop closer relationships with their government.

Please consider carefully the value to your state of participating in this initiative. Oregon has proven that participation can yield results without onerous extra bureaucratic burden. My staff and I would be delighted to provide you with the guidance and materials you need, including guidelines for content, a design template and report examples. If you would like any additional information, please contact me at XXX or e-mail me at XXX.

Sincerely,

XXX

Enclosures