

From: LeMieux, George
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2007 9:57 AM
To: _Agency Heads Governor Agencies; _Agency Heads Non-Governor Agencies
Cc: _Agency Head Assistants; Eikenberg, Eric; DiBenigno, Arlene; Rowe, Lori; Fraser, Towson; Isaac, Erin; McDaniel, Jerry
Subject: Agency Reduction Initiatives

As you recall, we announced the prospect of a budget reduction exercise during a late June Agency Heads meeting. This was due to actual general revenue tax collections coming at a rate below that which was forecast, as well as anticipation of similar results for the upcoming 2007-2008 fiscal year. The agreement with the House and Senate was that we would ask agencies to target 10% of recurring appropriations for possible reduction with the acknowledgement that, on average, a reduction of roughly 4% would be necessary.

Since that time, we have followed up with written documents which describe the nature of the problem, the assistance we need from you and your agencies, and a specific dollar target. At the Agency Heads meeting the Governor and I alluded to the fact that this exercise should be looked at as an opportunity to get into the operational aspects of your agencies and take a fresh look at how work is conducted and what is conducted – unencumbered by institutional bureaucracy.

As you probably recall during the process of your selection – this administration was in search of leadership that could provide new perspectives to the provision of government services. Further, we desire an administration that is efficient, accountable, deliberative and responsible to the People we serve. You have been selected to fulfill that role.

To that end, the Governor expects reduction initiatives that are creative, provide efficiencies, or possibly even discontinue non-essential government functions. Please consider these elements as you craft your responses.

We look forward to working with you on these initiatives as we address Florida's future together. Thanks for all of your good work.