



# State of North Carolina

## Office of the State Controller

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Robert L. Powell, State Controller

March 7, 2007

### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Michael F. Easley, Governor  
The Honorable Marc Basnight, Senate President Pro Tempore  
The Honorable Joe Hackney, Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

**FROM:** Robert L. Powell   
State Controller

**SUBJECT:** Status Report – Statewide Electronic Commerce Program

Since the passage of Senate Bill 222 in 1999, the Office of the State Controller (OSC) has taken the lead in expanding the Statewide Electronic Commerce Program (SECP), specifically as it pertains to payments. The program has two primary components:

- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Services
- Merchant Card Services (credit and debit cards).

Over the last five years the foundation for the SECP has been laid, including the creation of the Common Payment Services (CPS) gateway to service agencies on a statewide enterprise basis. The utilization of E-Commerce has allowed the State to continue toward its goal of shifting away from a paper-based environment, for both outbound and inbound payments. However, it has been recognized that the State has not achieved the level of success that the private industry has achieved in the area of E-Commerce in recent years.

As required by G.S. 147-86.22, when the SECP was developed in the year 2000, the Office of the State Controller (OSC) acquired the approval of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations regarding the issuance of policies. Since that time, OSC has periodically provided the committee status reports on the program. The last report was provided in October 2005.

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Attached is a copy of the most recent status report of the SECP, dated March 7, 2007. The report is more detail than normal, as it is intended to lay the groundwork for helping move North Carolina State Government closer to a paperless environment. Several issues require attention at this juncture, in order to provide a roadmap for the future of the SECP. The report identifies those issues.

The report may also be viewed on the State Controller's Web site.

<http://www.ncosc.net/SECP/SECPStatusReport-March2007.pdf>

cc: The Honorable Richard H. Moore, State Treasurer  
Members of the North Carolina General Assembly  
George Bakolia, State Chief Information Officer

Attachment