



# State of Louisiana

Division of Administration  
Office of the Commissioner

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Meghan Parrish, 225-342-7000

## New State Technology Division Begins Operations

**BATON ROUGE** - Beginning today, information technology functions across Louisiana state government are housed in one agency – the Office of Technology Services (OTS). The new agency begins the 2015 fiscal year with a centralized, fully operational technology team who provides all IT support services for executive cabinet agencies and is projected to save the State nearly \$25 million through strategic allocation of staff expertise, financial resources, and IT systems.

In its new role, OTS will optimize IT spending by eliminating redundant and duplicative systems, maximizing purchasing power by combining procurements, establishing master purchase contracts for equipment provided by individual manufacturers, facilitating knowledge transfer, and leveraging agency resources.

“It just makes sense to have a centralized technology division,” said Chief Information Officer Dickie Howze. “The consolidation allows us to better leverage our resources, share knowledge across state agencies, and improve service to our customers.”

OTS combines the Office of Computing Services, the Office of Information Services and the Office of Information Technology as well as the internal technology functions of other executive cabinet agencies to create one organization that will manage the State’s IT needs. Later this year, it will add the Office of Telecommunications Management.

SB 481 by Senator Jack Donahue created OTS and was signed by Governor Bobby Jindal to become Act 712 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session. The agency is expected to increase the State’s return on investment by improving service delivery and lowering costs.

###