

Steve Westly
California State Controller



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALIFORNIA CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY SELECTS BOND FINANCING TEAM

Sacramento, February 20, 2003 – California State Controller Steve Westly today announced he has assembled a team that will help issue bonds, known as Revenue Anticipation Warrants (RAWs), to address the financial crisis in California this spring.

Controller Westly selected E. J. De La Rosa & Co., Inc., and Montague DeRose & Associates, LLC, to serve as financial advisors to the Controller's Office. Controller Westly selected the law firm of Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP to serve as the State's bond counsel. The law firm of Nossaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliott, LLP, will serve as the State's disclosure counsel.

"It is my great pleasure to work with such outstanding and reputable firms," Controller Westly said. "My financial advisors and I will work exceptionally hard to ensure that adequate cash is in the State Treasury in time to meet the State's critical payments."

"In the spring, we will have a better concept of the State's financial needs and will determine then the amount of the RAW necessary to meet expected disbursements."

The RAW is a unique short-term instrument which allows the State to borrow in one fiscal year and repay in a subsequent year when surplus cash becomes available. A RAW was issued last year by the State in the amount of \$7.5 billion, which was a record amount.

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