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Dear Governor and Members of Legislature,

On behalf of all CGIA Board members, I would like to express our strong support for the findings and recommendations in the [Little Hoover Commission](#) Report #248 titled “[Mapping A Strategy for GIS](#)” regarding the current state of GIS in California. The better use of GIS with an effective GIS leadership in the state government that are called for in the report have been in discussion among GIS professionals in various meetings and conferences over the last couple of years.

Prior to the Little Hoover Commission’s GIS report, our CGIA board members investigated the current State Geographic Information Officer (GIO) position and concluded that this position has been largely ineffectual. The duties and responsibilities of the GIO, while being filled with a state employee over the last several years, have been largely neglected. As a leading GIS professional organization in California, CGIA believes that a dedicated GIO with a GIS Advisory Council is essential for a successful and sustainable state GIS development. We are prepared to support a process to develop an effective GIS governance model for California and to have a legislatively empowered GIS Advisory Council and a GIO.

This GIS governance model is of tremendous interest to our collective board members across all public, private, education, and non-profit entities. Moving forward, I am asking for your support to raise the profiles of the GIO and the GIS Advisory Council by providing legislative support for these roles and responsibilities and making them statute. Together, we can build a better GIS future for California.

Best regards,

An-Min Wu
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