Dear Mr. Quinn,

On behalf of Corel, office productivity software provider to some 20 million WordPerfect Office customers worldwide, it is my pleasure to respond to your request for feedback on the Data Formats section of Massachusetts' recently announced Enterprise Technical Reference Model.

WordPerfect Office is the leading alternative to Microsoft Office, and the only non-Microsoft office suite to retain a significant number of users within government organizations globally.

Corel views Open Standards as a way for customers to maintain seamless and timeless access to their documents. Open Standards also free customers from the risk and costs related to reliance on a single vendor. For these reasons, Corel strongly supports the broad adoption of the open standards Massachusetts has outlined, including XML, the OASIS Open Document Format and PDF.

WordPerfect Office is first and foremost a vehicle for document creation. As such, Corel sees a massive requirement for the adoption of open standards that will enable the sharing, reuse, storage and management of documents regardless of application or platform.

Corel is an original member of the OASIS Technical Committee on the Open Document Format, and Paul Langille, a senior Corel developer, is among the original four authors of the ODF specification.

Suffice to say, Corel remains committed to working alongside OASIS and other technology vendors to ensure the continued evolution of the ODF standard and the adoption of open standards industry-wide.

Corel encourages Massachusetts to maintain its leadership and innovation in the adoption of open standards, and we encourage the Commonwealth to continue the consultative process to ensure that end users and vendors alike can understand and contribute to these formats' adoption.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this important development, and please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel we can provide additional support or expertise in the implementation of these new standards.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Carriere,

General Manager
Office Productivity
Corel Corporation