

Dear Mr. Quinn and Ms. Mellelan:

On behalf of IBM, I am writing in response to your request for feedback on the Enterprise Technical Reference Model v.3.5 - Public Review Draft, which identifies the newly ratified OASIS Open Document Format for office applications to be the standard for all official records the Commonwealth creates and saves.

IBM appreciates the leadership of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in this area. The exhaustive process you have taken to arrive at this document, engaging all stakeholders and sharing these technical references for comments, can be a model to guide other states and governments in their migrations. IBM was pleased to participate in these discussions and looks forward to continuing to support the Commonwealth in its efforts.

We support the recommended guidelines, especially the technology specifications for the OASIS Open Document Format. We think your target date for implementation, 2007, is aggressive but understand the need to set a stake in the ground to begin this important migration to open standards for the documents that you create and maintain. These are your documents and the technical specifications that you have articulated will help ensure that you maintain control and future use over them, something which will be very important to the citizens of Massachusetts.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments. Please do not hesitate to call on any of us at IBM to respond to any additional concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Bob

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