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Contact:
Lynda Gledhill
(916) 651-9028

Secretary Batjer Announces CalHR Acting Director *Batjer Thanks Richard Gillihan for Dedication to CalHR*

Government Operations Secretary Marybel Batjer today announced that Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. has designated Chief Deputy Director Adria Jenkins-Jones as Acting Director of the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR).

Jenkins-Jones is a three-year veteran of the Department and was appointed on August 31, 2018 by Governor Brown as chief deputy director. Prior to this position, she was chief of the selection division for three years where she oversaw the State of California civil service examination process for 160 state departments. From 1991, Jenkins-Jones held several positions at the California Department of Finance, including human resources chief, recruitment and selection chief, and human resources generalist.

“I am thrilled that Governor Brown has designated Adria as the Acting Director of CalHR,” Secretary Batjer said. “She has shown her dedication to the state and its employees during her time at CalHR, and I know she will continue her great work in this very important new role.”

“Working at CalHR has been the best experience of my life. It is extremely gratifying to be a part of making positive changes for the employees of the state of California,” Jenkins-Jones said. “I am honored to be appointed to the position of Acting Director.”

Secretary Batjer also praised outgoing CalHR Director Richard Gillihan, who has been selected to be the Chief Operating Officer of the Department of Finance.

“Richard has been my partner in our Civil Service Improvement efforts, and I can’t thank him enough for all of his help and dedication. Without his leadership and the commitment of the employees of CalHR, we would not have accomplished these reforms,” said Secretary Batjer.

Among the key Civil Service Improvement efforts, California has reduced the number of civil service classifications, modified laws to allow the appointment of external candidates to Career Executive Assignments and promote the equitable hiring and retention of persons with disabilities.

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