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GovOps Announces Blockchain Working Group Members *Secretary Batjer names Camille Crittenden as Chair*

SACRAMENTO—California Government Operations Agency Secretary Marybel Batjer has selected Camille Crittenden, Executive Director of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society and the Banatao Institute, to serve as Chair of the newly formed blockchain working group. Secretary Batjer also announced the 20 members of the working group.

Resulting from legislation enacted in 2018, Assembly Bill 2658 (Calderon, Chapter 875, Statutes of 2018), the working group was established under the Government Operations Agency and is required to research and document the developing technology's potential uses, risks and benefits to state government and California-based businesses in a report to the Legislature by July 1, 2020.

“Camille brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge about this topic, and I am thrilled to have her lead this important effort,” said Secretary Batjer. “Blockchain is a unique, emerging technology, and I look forward to this group exploring its potential for the state.”

“Distributed ledger systems hold promising opportunities not only for cryptocurrency but for areas of social impact—such as documenting land and property rights, ensuring chain of custody for legal evidence and supply chains, and giving consumers greater control over their financial and health data—applications in utilities like energy and water, and more,” said Chair Crittenden. “I am honored to lead this important working group on possible blockchain applications for the state of California.”

Representing multiple disciplines, the 20-person working group includes experts in technology, business, law, privacy and consumer organizations, state government and members of the legislature. In addition to the working group, a broad range of stakeholders with a diverse range of interests affected by state policies will be consulted to provide input on recommendations.



The working group is expected to hold its first meeting in September. More information about working group members and upcoming meetings is available at <https://www.govops.ca.gov/blockchain/>.

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