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SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
CLOSING REPORT

DIVISION OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS AND
STATE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS HAS COMPLETED ITS REVIEW OF THE BUDGET ACCOUNTS FOR THE DIVISION OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS AND THE STATE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD. THE FOLLOWING IS A DISCUSSION OF THE MAJOR ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO THESE ACCOUNTS.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (B/A 710-1349) ADMIN-59

THE SUBCOMMITTEE CONCURRED WITH THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO INCREASE THE MONTHLY RENTAL RATES FOR STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS TO APPROXIMATELY \$1.14 SQUARE FOOT IN FY 2004 AND \$1.15 PER SQUARE FOOT IN FY 2005. THE SUBCOMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO USE ONLY ONE RENTAL RATE REGARDLESS OF THE SECURITY PROVIDED FOR THE BUILDINGS. THE RENTAL RATE INCREASE WAS NECESSITATED IN LARGE PART BY INCREASED COSTS FOR CONTRACT MAINTENANCE SERVICES AND UTILITY COSTS DURING THE 2001-03 BIENNIUM. BECAUSE OF THE EXPENDITURE INCREASES IN THOSE AREAS, MANY OF THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND RENOVATION PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE 2001 LEGISLATURE WERE DEFERRED UNTIL THE 2003-05 BIENNIUM, WHICH HAS ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE RATE INCREASE.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE CREATED A NEW CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES THAT INCLUDES ALL EXPENDITURES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE MAINTENANCE OF