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## GO-Biz Recognizes the Secretary of State's Digital Business Initiative as a Champion for Breaking Barriers to Doing Business

**SACRAMENTO** – The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) announced that it has recognized the California Secretary of State's office's Digital Business Initiative for its work to digitize how California businesses file and search for important documents. Over 75,000 Limited Liability Company (LLC) Statements of Information have been filed online since the June release of the Secretary of State's <a href="new business web portal">new business web portal</a>. The new LLC Statement of Information portal is part of Secretary of State Alex Padilla's Digital Initiative to modernize and improve customer service, including the Business Programs Division.

Click here to read GO-Biz's full article highlighting the Secretary of State's Digital Business Initiative as Champion for Breaking Barriers to Doing Business.

"I thank GO-Biz for recognizing our Digital Business Initiative as a Champion for Breaking Barriers to Doing Business in California," said Secretary of State Alex Padilla. "Our new LLC Statement of Information e-file tool is a major step in modernizing California's business filing process. Rather than spend time in-line at our office or waiting for the mail, tens of thousands of businesses are now saving time with streamlined online filing. We are confident that these numbers will continue to grow as the public moves from paper-based filing to the convenience and speed of online filing."

Secretary of State Padilla's Digital Business Initiative includes the ability to file <u>LLC Statements</u> of <u>Information online</u> through <u>bizfile California</u>, as well as an enhanced <u>California Business</u> <u>Search</u> tool. California Business Search has more than 10.6 million images of Corporation, LLC and Limited Partnership documents. In the past, individuals and companies would have to request scans of these documents. Requests for copies of business entity records have decreased by 62% over the last 3 months as compared to the same period in 2016.

In 2016, 375,000 LLC Statements of Information were filed with the Secretary of State's office by mail or in person. Since June 2017, 61% of all LLC Statements of Information were filed online.

The <u>Breaking Barriers to Doing Business Program</u> recognizes champions for their hard work and innovative efforts to help the business community start up and expand in California while at the same time upholding state standards.

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