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Subject: Government Restructuring

The SC GOP establishment is touting the restructuring bill that was recently passed by the senate (amended version of the bill passed by the House) as a great achievement. We are being encouraged to congratulate our senators and representatives for their fine work? Sorry, but many of us don't see this issue as having been addressed in an acceptable manner by a long stretch. The whole issue is really about power and transparency. The Legislature has managed to retain most of the excessive power they have held for many years, while pretending to have done away with the Budget and Control Board. What they have done is transfer some things to the new DOA, and replaced the B&CB with several new boards (staffed by the same power brokers) that will continue to control the largest part of government in manner that prevents us from being able to hold anyone accountable. The legislature continues to control all of the Other Funds, 67% of procurement, which bonds get approved and the retirement system. They have given themselves excessive oversight power, while leaving a situation where budget cuts may be done by a state employee rather than the legislature. The bill is **not good**, and is now back in the House. We should not be congratulating anyone, but should be demanding additional reforms with accountability and appropriate separation of power between the branches of government! Additional information can be found at: <http://www.scpolicycouncil.org/featured/government-de-structuring>

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