

BIOGRAPHY: Raneene (Rae) Preston Belisle

Raneene (Rae) Preston Belisle joins the Sacramento County Office of Education in October 2004 as General Counsel.

Ms. Belisle has served since 2003 as Executive Director of the California State Board of Education. Prior to that, she served as Associate General Counsel and Team Leader for Government Relations with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Her focus at LAUSD was the implementation of all aspects of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

Ms. Belisle has been active in implementing NCLB, serving as California's representative to the national rule-making panel that developed the federal regulations for assessment and accountability provisions of NCLB. She also served as one of the original members appointed to the NCLB Liaison Team established by state law to oversee implementation of all aspects of the federal law in California.

Formerly Chief Counsel to the California State Board of Education for many years, Ms. Belisle successfully defended the constitutionality of charter schools and the STAR test, and was most recently involved in the settlement of the Williams litigation. Before joining state service with the Legislative Counsel Bureau in 1986, Ms. Belisle also served with a local law firm for several years specializing in business litigation. She has practiced law since 1984 when she graduated with honors from McGeorge School of Law. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from University of California, Davis.

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