

General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5275

LCO No. **655**

Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by: (PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITS OF CERTAIN NONSTATE ENTITIES RECEIVING STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 4-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

(a) (1) Each nonstate entity [which] <u>that</u> expends a total amount of state financial assistance equal to or in excess of [three] <u>five</u> hundred thousand dollars in any fiscal year of such nonstate entity beginning on or after July 1, [2009] <u>2024</u>, shall have either a single audit or a programspecific audit made for such fiscal year, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection, <u>as applicable</u>, and the requirements of regulations adopted pursuant to section 4-236.

(2) If the total amount of state financial assistance expended in any
such fiscal year is for a single program, such nonstate entity may elect
to have a program-specific audit made in lieu of a single audit, provided
[a] <u>no</u> grant agreement or [a] statutory or regulatory provision
governing the program of state financial assistance [does not require]
<u>requires</u> a financial statement audit of such nonstate entity.

(3) If the total amount of state financial assistance expended in any
such fiscal year is for more than one program, such entity shall have a
single audit made for such fiscal year.

19 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any 20 regulation adopted under any provision of the general statutes, each nonstate entity that expends total state financial assistance of less than 21 22 [three] <u>five</u> hundred thousand dollars in any fiscal year of such nonstate 23 entity beginning on or after July 1, [2009] 2024, shall be exempt with 24 respect to such fiscal year from complying with any statutory or 25 regulatory requirements concerning financial or financial and 26 compliance audits that would otherwise [be applicable] apply to such 27 nonstate entity.

(c) No provision of this section shall be deemed to exempt a nonstate entity from complying with any statutory or regulatory provision requiring [the] such state entity to (1) maintain records concerning state financial assistance_z or (2) provide access to such records to a state agency.

Sec. 2. Section 4-232 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

35 (a) Each nonstate entity [which] that is required to be audited 36 pursuant to sections 4-230 to 4-236, inclusive, shall designate an 37 independent auditor to conduct such audit. Not later than thirty days 38 before the end of the fiscal period for which the audit is required, the 39 nonstate entity shall file the name of such auditor with the cognizant 40 agency designated pursuant to section 4-235. If a nonstate entity fails to 41 make such filing, the cognizant agency may designate an independent 42 auditor to conduct the audit. A nonstate entity shall be responsible for 43 paying the costs of any audit conducted by an independent auditor 44 designated by a cognizant agency.

(b) (1) Upon the completion of [the] <u>an</u> audit [,] pursuant to sections
4-230 to 4-236, inclusive, [the] <u>each</u> nonstate entity shall file a copy of the
audit report with the cognizant agency <u>designated pursuant to section</u>

48 4-235 and, if applicable, state grantor agencies and pass-through 49 entities. Once filed, such report shall be made available by the nonstate 50 entity for public inspection. Copies of the report shall be filed not later 51 than thirty days after completion of such report, if possible, but not later 52 than six months after the end of the audit period. The cognizant agency 53 may grant an extension of not more than thirty days, if the auditor 54 conducting the audit and the chief executive officer of the nonstate 55 entity jointly submit a request in writing to the cognizant agency that 56 includes the reasons for such extension and an estimate of the time needed for completion of such audit, [at least] not less than thirty days 57 58 prior to the end of such six-month period. If the reason for the extension 59 relates to deficiencies in the accounting system of the nonstate entity, 60 the request shall be accompanied by a corrective action plan. The 61 auditor or chief executive officer shall promptly provide any additional 62 information the cognizant agency may require. Before determining 63 whether to grant an extension request, the cognizant agency may 64 require the auditor and officials of the nonstate entity to meet with 65 representatives of the cognizant agency. No extension granted pursuant 66 to this subdivision shall extend beyond twelve months after the last day 67 of the fiscal year to which such audit applies.

68 (2) Any nonstate entity, or <u>the</u> auditor of such nonstate entity, [which] 69 that fails to have [the] an audit report filed on its behalf [within] not later 70 than six months after the end of the fiscal year or within the time granted 71 by the cognizant agency, may be assessed [,] by the Secretary of the 72 Office of Policy and Management [,] a civil penalty of not less than one 73 thousand dollars [but not more than] and not to exceed ten thousand 74 dollars. In addition to, or in lieu of such penalty, the cognizant agency 75 may assign an auditor to perform [the] an audit of such nonstate entity. 76 In such case, [the] such nonstate entity shall be responsible for paying 77 the costs related to [the] such audit. The secretary may, upon receipt of 78 a written request from an official of the nonstate entity or its auditor, 79 waive all such penalties if the secretary determines that there [appears 80 to be] is reasonable cause for the entity not having completed or 81 provided [the] <u>a</u> required audit report.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2024	4-231
Sec. 2	July 1, 2024	4-232

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the threshold for exemption from certain auditing requirements for nonstate entities from three hundred thousand dollars to five hundred thousand dollars, specify the permissible time period for granting extensions to file certain audit reports and make technical changes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]