

SENATE BILL NO. 161

BY SENATORS MURRAY AND WALSWORTH

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 24:524, relative to the legislative auditor; to provide for recovery of costs incurred by the legislative auditor to audit, investigate, or report possible fraud, theft, or other misappropriation; to provide for civil suits against the responsible party; to provide for assistance of the attorney general; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 24:524 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§524. Restitution of audit costs**

**A. All costs incurred by the legislative auditor to audit, investigate, or report possible fraud, theft or other misappropriation shall be recoverable by civil suit against the responsible party. Upon a finding of fraud, theft, or other misappropriation, the attorney general, at the request of the legislative auditor, is authorized to seek recovery on behalf of the legislative auditor of such costs through civil suit against the responsible party, and all costs and reasonable attorney fees incurred by the attorney general in the civil suit shall be recoverable from the responsible party.**

**B. The attorney general or the local district attorney prosecuting such crimes shall also seek restitution.**

**C. For the purposes of the Section, "responsible party" means the person or entity actually responsible for the misappropriation.**

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_