

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 319

BY SENATOR DONAHUE

FISCAL CONTROLS. Provides that certain audits completed by the office of the legislative auditor shall be reported to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on an annual basis. (7/1/14)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 24:516.1, relative to reports of the legislative auditor; to provide for certain
3 annual audit reports to be filed with the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget;
4 to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 24:516.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§516.1. Annual reports filed with the Joint Legislative Committee on the**
8 **Budget**

9 **A.(1) The legislative auditor shall annually file copies of certain audit**
10 **reports released by his office with the Joint Legislative Committee on the**
11 **Budget. For purposes of the Section, the legislative auditor shall file copies of**
12 **audit reports prepared by his office or accepted by the legislative auditor**
13 **pursuant to R.S. 24:513(A) which have a dollar impact of one hundred fifty**
14 **thousand dollars or more relative to the following:**

15 **(a) Waste or inefficiencies in government;**

16 **(b) Missed revenue collections;**

17 **(c) Erroneous or improper payments or overpayments by the state, its**

1 departments, agencies, boards or commissions, including but not limited to tax
2 credits or rebates, among others;

3 (d) Theft of money;

4 (e) Failing to meet funding obligations such as pension or health benefit
5 requirements;

6 (f) Failure to comply with federal fund or grant requirements;

7 (g) Failure to comply with state funding requirements, including failure
8 to report as required;

9 (h) Misappropriation of funds;

10 (i) Errors in or insufficient support for disaster expenditures; and

11 (j) Accountability of public money associated with various disasters such
12 as the Deepwater Horizon event.

13 (2) In addition, the legislative auditor shall report any case where an
14 auditee fails to take corrective action on an audit finding which has a dollar
15 impact of one hundred fifty thousand dollars or more thereby causing a finding
16 to be reported for more than two or more consecutive years.

17 (3) Such reports shall be submitted quarterly to the Joint Legislative
18 Committee on the Budget. An annual report shall be compiled by the legislative
19 auditor and submitted and distributed to the committee by February fifteenth
20 each year. Contents of the report may be used in deliberations of the executive
21 budget. Such copies of the reports may be filed electronically; however, the
22 legislative auditor shall make actual paper copies of such reports available to
23 any of the members of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget upon their
24 request.

25 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2014; if vetoed by the governor
26 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,
27 2014, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

The original instrument was prepared by Jay Lueckel. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Kari B. Couvillon.

DIGEST

Donahue (SB 319)

Proposed law provides that the legislative auditor shall annually file copies of certain audit reports released by the Office of the Legislative Auditor with the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB). The legislative auditor shall file copies of reports prepared by his office or accepted by the legislative auditor pursuant to R.S. 24:513(A), which have a dollar impact of \$150,000 or more.

Proposed law provides that such audit reports shall be relative to the following: waste or inefficiencies in government; missed revenue collections; erroneous or improper payments or overpayments by the state, its departments, agencies, boards or commissions, including but not limited to tax credits or rebates, among others; theft of money; failing to meet funding obligations such as pension or health benefit requirements; failure to comply with federal fund or grant requirements; failure to comply with state funding requirements, including failure to report as required; misappropriation of funds; errors in or insufficient support for disaster expenditures; and accountability of public money.

Proposed law provides the legislative auditor shall report any case where an auditee fails to take corrective action on an audit finding which has a dollar impact of \$150,000 or more thereby causing a finding to be reported for more than two or more consecutive years.

Proposed law provides that such reports shall be submitted quarterly to the JLCB.

Proposed law provides that an annual report shall be compiled by the legislative auditor and submitted and distributed to the JLCB by February 15th each year. The contents of the report may be used in deliberation of the executive budget.

Effective July 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 24:516.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Specifies dollar amount of \$150,000 or more on those audit findings that must be reported by the legislative auditor where an auditee fails to take corrective action on an audit finding for more than two or more consecutive years.