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Representatives Schaffer, Duffey

Cosponsors: Representatives Blessing, Boose, Vitale, Brown, Buchy, Butler, Pelanda, Smith, R., Amstutz, Anielski, Antani, Antonio, Arndt, Baker, Boyce, Brenner, Burkley, Conditt, Craig, Cupp, Dever, Dovilla, Hagan, Hall, Hambley, Koehler, LaTourette, Leland, McClain, O'Brien, M., O'Brien, S., Retherford, Rogers, Romanchuk, Ryan, Scherer, Sprague, Sweeney, Thompson

A BILL

To amend sections 117.46, 117.461, 117.462, and 117.463 of the Revised Code to specify that state institutions of higher education may be subject to performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 117.46, 117.461, 117.462, and 117.463 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 117.46. Each biennium the auditor of state shall conduct a minimum of four performance audits under this section. ~~audit of a minimum of four state agencies~~ At Except as otherwise provided in this section, at least two of the audits shall be of state agencies selected from a list comprised of the administrative departments listed in section 121.02 of the Revised Code and the department of education and at least two of the audits shall be of other state agencies. At the auditor of

state's discretion, the auditor of state may conduct a 16
performance audit of a state institution of higher education as 17
one of the four required performance audits. The offices of the 18
attorney general, auditor of state, governor, secretary of 19
state, and treasurer of state and agencies of the legislative 20
and judicial branches ~~shall are not be~~ subject to an audit under 21
this section. 22

The auditor shall select each agency or institution to be 23
audited and shall determine whether to audit the entire agency 24
or institution or a portion of the agency or institution by 25
auditing one or more programs, offices, boards, councils, or 26
other entities within that agency or institution. The auditor 27
shall make the selection and determination in consultation with 28
the governor and the speaker and minority leader of the house of 29
representatives and president and minority leader of the senate. 30

An audit of a portion of an agency or institution shall be 31
considered an audit of one agency or institution. The authority 32
to audit a portion of an agency or institution in no way limits 33
the auditor's ability to audit an entire agency or institution 34
if it is in the best interest of the state. 35

The performance audits under this section shall be 36
conducted pursuant to sections 117.01 and 117.13 of the Revised 37
Code. In conducting a performance audit, the auditor of state 38
shall determine the scope of the audit, but shall consider, if 39
appropriate, supervisory and subordinate level operations in the 40
agency or institution. 41

As used in this section and in sections 117.461, 117.462, 42
and 117.463 of the Revised Code, "state institution of higher 43
education" has the meaning defined in section 3345.011 of the 44
Revised Code. 45

Sec. 117.461. Every state agency or state institution of 46
higher education audited pursuant to section 117.46 of the 47
Revised Code shall accept comments regarding the performance 48
audit from interested parties. The comment period shall begin on 49
the day following the release date of the audit and shall 50
conclude at the end of the fourteenth day following the release 51
date. The agency or institution shall make all comments 52
available to the public on the twenty-first day following the 53
release date of the audit. The agency or institution shall 54
determine how to accept comments under this section. 55

Sec. 117.462. (A) A state agency or state institution of 56
higher education shall implement the recommendations of a 57
performance audit conducted pursuant to section 117.46 of the 58
Revised Code. If an agency or institution does not commence 59
implementation of such recommendations within three months after 60
the end of the comment period for the audit, the agency or 61
institution shall do both of the following: 62

(1) File a report explaining why the agency or institution 63
has not commenced implementation of the recommendations with the 64
governor, auditor of state, speaker and minority leader of the 65
house of representatives, and president and minority leader of 66
the senate; 67

(2) Provide testimony explaining why the agency or 68
institution has not commenced implementation of the 69
recommendations to the house of representatives and senate 70
committees dealing primarily with the programs and activities of 71
the agency or institution. 72

(B) Comments submitted to the agency or institution under 73
section 117.461 of the Revised Code shall be attached to the 74
report required by division (A) (1) of this section. 75

(C) If an agency or institution does not fully implement 76
an audit recommendation within one year after the end of the 77
comment period for the audit, the agency or institution shall 78
file a report with the governor, auditor, speaker and minority 79
leader of the house of representatives, and president and 80
minority leader of the senate justifying why the recommendation 81
has not or will not be implemented. 82

Sec. 117.463. (A) The auditor of state shall annually 83
submit a report in writing to the governor, the speaker and 84
minority leader of the house of representatives, and the 85
president and minority leader of the senate describing both of 86
the following: 87

(1) Whether state agencies or state institutions of higher 88
education that received performance audits in the immediately 89
preceding year implemented the audit recommendations; 90

(2) The amount of money saved as a result of the 91
implementation. 92

(B) The auditor of state shall establish a process for 93
obtaining the information required for the report. 94

(C) The report shall be submitted no later than the 95
thirtieth day of March of each year. 96

Section 2. That existing sections 117.46, 117.461, 97
117.462, and 117.463 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 98