

Government Oversight Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-7090

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TIMING AND SCOPE OF AUDITS BY THE

Title: AUDITORS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Vote Date: 3/18/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/4/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Oversight Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill requires audits by the Auditors of Public Accounts to include a performance examination if it is requested by the Government Oversight Committee and requires the auditors to submit an annual proposed schedule to the Government Oversight Committee, beginning July 1, 2026, for the audits they plan to conduct for the following calendar year. The auditors are required to audit any state agency more than biennially, when requested by the committee. The Government Oversight Committee may also request the auditors prioritize certain audits, or to conduct more frequent follow-up audits in cases where the findings of the most recent audits of an agency indicate material violations of state statute or regulations. In cases where the auditors discover any authorized, illegal, irregular, or unsafe handling or expenditure of state funds, sec 1 (f) adds the Government Oversight Committee to the list of entities that are required to receive a report from the auditors.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:

Changed timing of auditors providing schedule of audits from December to July and added language about limited performance audit.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Andrea Barton Reeves: Commissioner, CT Department of Social Services:

Opposes this bill as it will add more frequent audits. Increasing the frequency of this type of audit will negatively impact the Department, the audit schedule for the Department of Social Services is already noticeably straining. The proposed bill also authorizes more frequent follow-up audits. Some findings take significant time to correct the underlying internal controls. Increasing the frequency of follow-ups may not provide the Department with adequate time to resolve the previous reported findings.

John Geragosian, Craig Miner: CT Auditors of Public Accounts:

Opposes requiring the auditors to include performance examinations in any audit committee requests. This would put undue burden on their office. They are also requesting to change the date of submission of schedule of annual audits to July 1.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed

Reported by: Greg Wolff

Date: 3/24/25