

AUDIT OF STATE BUDGETS

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: LaVar Christensen

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires the Office of Legislative Auditor General to review and audit certain state entity budgets.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires the Office of Legislative Auditor General to review and audit entities and programs as directed by the Legislative Audit Subcommittee;
- ▶ directs submission of reports; and
- ▶ defines the responsibilities of the Office of Legislative Auditor General in conducting those audits and reviews.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

36-12-15.1, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **36-12-15.1** is enacted to read:



28 **36-12-15.1. Budgetary appropriation reviews.**

29 (1) As used in this section, "entity" means an entity that receives an ongoing line item
30 appropriation in an appropriations act.

31 (2) The Office of Legislative Auditor General shall:

32 (a) dedicate a sufficient portion of its office resources to the regular ongoing audit and
33 review of the budgetary appropriations for an entity at least once every four years;

34 (b) conduct the audit and review described in Subsection (2)(a) according to the
35 process established for the Legislative Audit Subcommittee created in Section 36-12-8;

36 (c) after release of the report by the Legislative Audit Subcommittee, submit the report
37 to:

38 (i) each member of the Utah Senate and the Utah House of Representatives; and

39 (ii) the governor or the governor's designee; and

40 (d) in consultation with the legislative fiscal analyst, summarize the findings of each
41 audit and review in the legislative auditor general's annual report by identifying:

42 (i) base budget appropriation of the entity for the past five years; and

43 (ii) the entity's prior history of savings and efficiencies.

44 (3) In performing an audit and review, the Office of Legislative Auditor General shall
45 study and determine the extent to which:

46 (a) the entity has efficiently and effectively utilized its appropriation;

47 (b) the entity has not grown in size, complexity, or cost beyond that which is justified;

48 and

49 (c) the entity's representatives have acted as diligent and responsible stewards of public
50 money received from and entrusted by the taxpayers of this state.

51 (4) The Legislature, in evaluating an entity's request for an increase in its base budget,
52 shall review the report required by this section and any relevant audits and consider the entity's
53 request for an increase in its base budget in light of the agency's prior history of savings and
54 efficiencies as evidenced by the report required by this section.

Legislative Review Note
as of 2-1-11 1:39 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel