

LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 23, 2022

The Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee met on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 12:00 PM in the LOB Rooms 210-211.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Rep. Keith Erf  
Rep. Ken Weyler  
Rep. Karen Umberger  
Rep. Mary Jane Wallner  
Sen. John Reagan, Vice Chair  
Sen. Erin Hennessey  
Sen. Lou D'Allesandro  
Sen. Bob Giuda  
Sen. Jay Kahn

The meeting was called to order by Senator Reagan at 12:00 PM.

VOTE ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2021 MEETING MINUTES:

On a motion by Senator Hennessey, seconded by Representative Weyler, that the minutes of the November 10, 2021 meeting be accepted.

MOTION ADOPTED.

STATUS OF ONGOING PERFORMANCE AUDITS:

Stephen Smith, Director of Audits, provided the Committee with brief updates of ongoing performance audits. The Child Care Licensing Unit is complete and was presented to Fiscal on February 18, 2022. The LBA is awaiting responses on some observations from the Board of Dental and is working with them to help them respond appropriately. This report will be lengthy, as there are over thirty observations. We are hoping to tie up this Spring and present to Fiscal. We are currently scoping and beginning the planning of the Mental Health audit. A scope statement will be brought to the Committee for approval at the next meeting. The NH Retirement report has been drafted and in the process of review. A letter will be sent to Mike Kane within the next month and subsequently to the Fiscal Committee.

IDENTIFY NEW TOPICS AND PRIORITIZE AUDIT WORK:

John Clinch, Senior Audit Manager, gave the Committee an overview of the efficiency and effectiveness of the special education dispute resolution process (RSA 186-C). The Committee expressed their concerns and agreed this topic is a serious problem and would like LBA to reach a conclusion. Mr. Clinch summarized the Committees concerns: there's an interest in dispute resolution, which can be done fairly quickly, as a stand-alone audit. The other part would be more of a general special education audit that looks at cost, how IEPs are

formed, and the support the Department of Education provides to local school districts. This would be more of a broader spectrum and would take more time.

Stephen Smith recommended starting the dispute resolution process first, to help the Committee begin getting answers to their concerns. As we gain a better understanding and get more information, we can ask the Committee for the topic to be expanded. The other option would be to finish this portion and move on to the other area of concern. A scope statement will be brought to the Committee, and can be expanded, if necessary.

Senator Reagan requested a scope statement be brought back to the Committee prior to a Fiscal Committee meeting.

TABLED AUDIT TOPICS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED, AWAITING FURTHER LPAOC ACTION:

Stephen Smith informed the Committee of two audit topics that were tabled: the Weatherization Program; and the Fixed-Wing Aircraft Program.

The Committee discussed and voted to eliminate the Fixed-Wing Aircraft Program as a potential topic.

On a motion by Senator Hennessey, seconded by Representative Umberger.

MOTION ADOPTED.

The Committee briefly discussed and decided the Weatherization Program should be audited.

On a motion by Representative Umberger, seconded by Senator Giuda.


MOTION ADOPTED.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Smith informed the Committee that a letter for the Weatherization topic will be drafted for the next Fiscal meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

Next meeting will be at the call of the Vice Chair. Senator Reagan adjourned the meeting at 12:48.

  
Sen. John Reagan, Vice Chair