Florida House of Representatives - 1998

HB 3843

By Representatives Tamargo, Littlefield, Crist, Ogles, Bradley, Culp, Byrd, Wallace, Miller, Safley and Murman

1 A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Hillsborough County 2 3 Civil Service Board; amending chapter 96-519, 4 Laws of Florida; adding mandatory components of performance audits; clarifying requirements for 5 6 contracting for performance audits; providing 7 an effective date. 8 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 10 Section 1. Section 20 of chapter 96-519, Laws of 11 12 Florida, is amended to read: 13 Section 20. Performance audit. -- The board is subject to a performance audit every 4 years, with the first such 14 15 audit having been completed April 30, 1995, as follows: (1) For purposes of this act, the performance audit, 16 17 which shall be conducted in accordance with Government 18 Auditing Standards adopted by the United States Comptroller General, must contain the following components: 19 20 (a) An appraisal of management performance, including the effectiveness of administration and the efficiency and 21 adequacy of the program the entity is authorized by law to 22 23 perform; 24 (b) An assessment of adherence to general and special 25 law and any rules adopted thereunder; 26 (C) The adequacy of operating controls and operating 27 procedures; 28 (d) An assessment of relations with employees and the 29 public generally; 30 31

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1 (e) An examination and evaluation of alternative 2 methods of providing program services or products more 3 efficiently and effectively; (f) Recommendations for changes required in general or 4 5 special law which, if enacted, would enhance the efficiency 6 and effectiveness of the program; and 7 (g) An assessment of financial impact, if any, of any 8 of the recommendations contained in the final audit report; 9 (h) An assessment of progress made on the most recent previous performance audit recommendations, if any; and 10 (i)(g) A copy of the response received pursuant to 11 12 subparagraph (3)(b)3. 13 (2) The audit may not be performed by any agency of state or local government, with the exception of the Auditor 14 15 General as provided by general law. However, this act may not be construed to prohibit other audits authorized by law. 16 17 (3)(a) In contracting for the audit, the governing 18 body of the board shall use standard procedures for any public 19 body when contracting for professional services, including, 20 but not limited to: 21 1. Public notice which must include a general 22 description of the audit and must indicate how interested 23 firms or individuals can apply for consideration, including a requirement that any such applicant must provide a statement 24 25 of qualifications and performance data announcement, in a 26 uniform and consistent manner, when auditing services are 27 required to be purchased, of a general description of the 28 audit and an indication of how interested parties may apply 29 for consideration; 30 2. Adoption of procedures for the evaluation of 31 professional auditing services, including, but not limited to,

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capabilities; adequacy and ability of professional personnel; 1 past record; audit and other experience of the firm or 2 responsible individual, including a statement that such firm 3 or individual has met the required continuing professional 4 5 educational requirements as prescribed by the Florida 6 Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Board of 7 Accountancy; results of its most recent external quality control review; basis for fees; ability to meet time 8 9 requirements; and such other factors as are determined by the 10 board to be applicable to its particular requirements; and Making a finding that the firm or individual to be 11 3. employed is fully qualified pursuant to law and the adopted 12 13 evaluation procedures. (b) The contract shall be evidenced by a written 14 document embodying all provisions and conditions of the 15 16 procurement of such services, which must include, but is not limited to: 17 18 1. A provision that bills for fees or other 19 compensation for services or expenses be submitted in detail 20 with supporting documentation sufficient for a proper preaudit 21 and postaudit thereof; 22 2. A provision that bills for any travel and per diem 23 expenses be submitted in accordance with section 112.061, Florida Statutes; 24 3. A provision that, at the conclusion of the audit, 25 the entity conducting the audit shall discuss the audit with 26 27 the chairman of the board and submit to that person 28 preliminary audit findings, including relevant supporting 29 documentation, if requested which may be included in the final 30 audit report. If the chairman is not available for receipt of the audit findings, with any adverse findings clearly 31

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designated as such, delivery thereof is presumed to be made 1 when it is delivered to the board's executive office. The 2 chairman shall submit to the entity conducting the audit, 3 within 60 days after receipt of the preliminary findings, a 4 5 written response concerning all such findings, including 6 corrective action to be taken to preclude a recurrence of any 7 adverse finding. Thereafter, a final audit report shall be issued which shall include the chairman's response and any 8 9 rebuttal thereto by the entity conducting the audit;

4. A provision that those workpapers necessary to
support the conclusions in the final audit report be retained
by the entity conducting the audit for a period of 2 years
following delivery of the final audit and be made available to
the board upon a vote of the majority of the governing body of
the board. The audit report, when final, shall be retained by
the board pursuant to chapter 119, Florida Statutes; and

5. A provision that, upon completion of the audit, sufficient copies shall be filed with the Office of the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation for distribution to members of the delegation and that sufficient copies be provided to the board to meet anticipated public demand for copies of such audit.

(c) If the audit is to be paid for by the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, the contract document may not be executed without the advice and consent of the board of county commissioners, although the board may not unreasonably withhold confirmation.

(4) Funds shall be appropriated by the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County for payment of costs incurred in connection with such audit. The Hillsborough County Civil Service Board shall request the estimated funding

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1 required for the audit in accordance with county budgeting 2 procedures in a manner that will assure that the funds will be 3 appropriated for that purpose during the fiscal year in which 4 the audit is to be completed.

5 (5) One year after the date of the final audit report, 6 the chairman of the board shall submit to the Office of the 7 Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation a written statement 8 of the status of recommendations <u>and responses</u> contained in 9 the audit report.

10 (6) If the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners has ordered a performance audit pursuant to 11 general law by any appropriately qualified entity not a part 12 13 of county government which was completed within 2 years 14 before, or which will be completed within 3 months after, 15 April 30 of the year the performance audit under this section is to be completed and that audit contains the mandatory 16 components contained in subsection (1) and the contract 17 18 requirements contained in subparagraphs (3)(b)3., 4., and 5., 19 that audit may be used to fulfill the requirement for the 20 performance audit contained in special act. If an audit so 21 ordered is to be submitted to fulfill the requirements of 22 special act and will be completed after the April 30 deadline, 23 the board shall notify the Office of the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation by April 30 that the audit will be 24 delayed, the reason for the delay, and the date it will be 25 26 delivered, which date may not be later than July 31 in the 27 year in which the audit is due pursuant to special act. 28 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 29 law. 30

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