

By Senator Perry

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to economic self-sufficiency; amending
3 s. 11.45, F.S.; requiring the Auditor General to
4 perform audits of specified programs at specified
5 intervals beginning in a specified calendar year;
6 requiring the audits to review specified elements of
7 such programs; requiring the Auditor General to make a
8 specified determination, if possible; providing
9 reporting requirements for the results of such audits;
10 providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (n) is added to subsection (2) of
15 section 11.45, Florida Statutes, to read:

16 11.45 Definitions; duties; authorities; reports; rules.—

17 (2) DUTIES.—The Auditor General shall:

18 (n) Beginning during the 2021 calendar year, and at least
19 every 3 years thereafter, conduct performance audits of the
20 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program established under 7
21 U.S.C. ss. 2011 et seq., the Temporary Cash Assistance Program
22 as provided under s. 414.095, the Medicaid program designated in
23 s. 409.963, the school readiness program set forth in part VI of
24 chapter 1002, and the Housing Choice Voucher Program established
25 under 42 U.S.C. s. 1437f. Such audits must include a review of
26 eligibility criteria; the manner by which each program
27 establishes and documents eligibility and disbursement policies;
28 the frequency of eligibility determinations; the clarity of both
29 written and verbal communication in which eligibility

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30 requirements are conveyed to current and potential program
31 recipients; opportunities for improving service efficiency and
32 efficacy made possible by improved integration of state data
33 system platforms, processes, and procedures related to data
34 collection, analysis, documentation, and interagency sharing;
35 and the number and size of families receiving multiple program
36 services compared to all eligible families, including whether
37 they are single-parent or two-parent households. If possible,
38 the Auditor General also shall determine the number of families
39 receiving services who are claiming the Earned Income Tax
40 Credit. The Auditor General shall provide the results of the
41 audits in a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
42 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Financial
43 Officer, and the Legislative Auditing Committee within 30 days
44 after completion of the audits, but no later than December 31,
45 2021, and every 3 years thereafter.

46
47 The Auditor General shall perform his or her duties
48 independently but under the general policies established by the
49 Legislative Auditing Committee. This subsection does not limit
50 the Auditor General's discretionary authority to conduct other
51 audits or engagements of governmental entities as authorized in
52 subsection (3).

53 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.