

**THE SENATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**JUNE 30, 2015**

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**South Carolina  
Office of the State Auditor**

**George L. Kennedy, III, CPA  
State Auditor**

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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

October 11, 2016

Members of The Senate of South Carolina  
South Carolina General Assembly  
Columbia, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures described below, which were agreed to by the Clerk of The Senate and The Senate of South Carolina (The Senate), solely to assist you in evaluating the performance of The Senate for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, in the areas addressed. The Senate's management is responsible for its financial records, internal controls and compliance with State laws and regulations. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified parties in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

**1. Cash Receipts and Revenues**

- We inspected eight selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were properly described and classified in the accounting records in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures and State regulations.
- We inspected five selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were recorded in the proper fiscal year.
- We made inquiries and performed substantive procedures to determine if revenue collection and retention or remittance were supported by law.
- We compared current year recorded revenues at the subfund and account level from sources other than State General Fund appropriations to those of the prior year. We investigated changes in the general, earmarked, restricted and federal funds to ensure that revenue was classified properly in the agency's accounting records. The scope was based on agreed upon materiality levels (\$200 – general fund, \$6,300 – earmarked fund, \$0 – restricted fund, and \$0 – federal fund) and  $\pm 10$  percent.
- We made inquiries of management pertaining to The Senate's policies for accountability and security over other documents issued for money. We observed agency personnel performing their duties to determine if they understood and followed the described policies.

The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

2. **Non-Payroll Disbursements and Expenditures**

- We inspected twenty-five selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were properly described and classified in the accounting records in accordance with The Senate's policies and procedures and State regulations, were bona fide disbursements of The Senate, and were paid in conformity with State laws and regulations; if the acquired goods and/or services were procured in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We inspected twenty-five selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were recorded in the proper fiscal year.
- We compared current year expenditures at the subfund and account level to those of the prior year. We investigated changes in the general, earmarked and federal funds to ensure that expenditures were classified properly in the agency's accounting records. The scope was based on agreed upon materiality levels (\$89,300 – general fund, \$6,300 – earmarked fund, and \$0 – federal fund) and  $\pm 10$  percent.

The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

3. **Payroll Disbursements and Expenditures**

- We inspected twenty-five selected recorded payroll disbursements to determine if the selected payroll transactions were properly described, classified, and distributed in the accounting records; persons on the payroll were bona fide employees; and payroll transactions were properly authorized and were in accordance with existing legal requirements and processed in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures and State regulations.
- We inspected payroll transactions for seventeen selected new employees and sixteen individuals who terminated employment to determine if the employees were added and/or removed from the payroll in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures, that the employee's first and/or last pay check was properly calculated and that the employee's leave payout was properly calculated in accordance with applicable State law.
- We compared current year payroll expenditures at the subfund and account level to those of the prior year. We investigated changes in the general fund to ensure that expenditures were classified properly in the agency's accounting records. The scope was based on an agreed upon materiality level of \$89,300 and  $\pm 10$  percent.

The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

4. **Journal Entries and Interagency Appropriation Transfers**

- We inspected five selected recorded journal entries and all interagency appropriation transfers to determine if these transactions were properly described and classified in the accounting records; they agreed with the supporting documentation, the purpose of the transactions was documented and explained, the transactions were properly approved, and were mathematically correct; and the transactions were processed in accordance with The Senate's policies and procedures and State regulations.

The individual journal entry transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

5. **Appropriation Act**

- We inspected agency documents, observed processes, and/or made inquiries of agency personnel to determine The Senate's compliance with Appropriation Act general provisos as listed in the Appropriation Act work program, and agency specific provisos, if applicable.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

6. **Reporting Packages**

- We obtained copies of all reporting packages as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, prepared by The Senate and submitted to the State Comptroller General. We inspected them to determine if they were prepared in accordance with the Comptroller General's Reporting Policies and Procedures Manual requirements and if the amounts reported in the reporting packages agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

7. **Status of Prior Findings**

- We inquired about the status of the findings reported in the Accountant's Comments section of the State Auditor's Report on The Senate resulting from our engagement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, to determine if The Senate had taken corrective action.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

The concept of materiality does not apply to findings to be reported in an agreed-upon procedures engagement. Therefore, all findings from the application of the agreed-upon procedures must be reported unless the definition of materiality is agreed to by the specified parties. Management of The Senate has agreed that the following deficiencies will not be included in the State Auditor's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures:

- Clerical errors of less than \$100 related to processing cash receipts and cash disbursements transactions unless the errors occur in ten percent or more of the transaction class tested.
- Clerical errors of less than \$100 related to reporting packages.
- Errors in applying account coding definitions to accounting transactions unless it is determined that ten percent or more of the accounting transactions tested were found to be in error.
- Reporting packages which are submitted less than three business days after the due date unless it is determined that more than two of the reporting packages were submitted late.
- Submission of the Schedule of Federal Financial Assistance less than three business days late.

Members of The Senate of South Carolina  
South Carolina General Assembly  
Columbia, South Carolina  
October 11, 2016

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the specified elements, accounts, or items. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Clerk of The Senate and Members of The Senate and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



George L. Kennedy, III, CPA  
State Auditor

## **STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS**

During the current engagement, we reviewed the status of corrective action taken on each of the findings reported in the Accountant's Comments section of the State Auditor's Report on The Senate for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, and dated October 12, 2015. We determined that The Senate has taken adequate corrective action on each of the findings.

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