

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

**STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**JUNE 30, 2016**



George L. Kennedy, III, CPA  
State Auditor

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

August 22, 2017

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

We have performed the procedures described in Attachment 1, which were agreed to by the management of The Senate of South Carolina (The Senate), solely to assist you in evaluating the systems, processes and behaviors of The Senate for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. 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 in Attachment 1 for the purpose of which the agreed-upon procedures report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the systems, processes and behaviors of The Senate. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

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 \$1,000 related to processing cash receipts and cash disbursements transactions unless the errors occur in ten percent or more of the transaction class inspected.
- Clerical errors of less than \$1,000 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 inspected 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.

Members of The Senate of South Carolina  
South Carolina General Assembly  
August 22, 2017

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Clerk of The Senate and the members of The Senate and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.



George L. Kennedy, III, CPA  
State Auditor

**South Carolina Office of the State Auditor  
Agreed Upon Procedures Related to The Senate of South Carolina (A01)**

**Cash Receipts/Revenues**

1. Compare current year revenues at the subfund and account level from sources other than State General Fund appropriations to those of the prior year. Obtain and document an understanding of variations over \$100 in the General Fund and Restricted Funds, and \$10,000 in Earmarked Funds and 10%.
2. Randomly select five cash receipts transactions and inspect supporting documentation to:
  - Agree transaction amount, date, payor, document number, and account coding to the general ledger.
  - Determine that revenues/receipts were deposited in a timely manner.
  - Ensure that both revenue collections and amounts charged are properly authorized by law.
3. Randomly select five cash receipts and inspect supporting documentation to determine that receipts are recorded in the proper fiscal year.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

**Cash Disbursements/Non-payroll Expenditures**

4. Compare current year non-payroll expenditures at the subfund and account level to those of the prior year. Obtain and document an understanding of variations over \$100,000 in the General Fund, \$5,000 in Earmarked Funds and \$500 in Restricted Funds and 10%.
5. Randomly select twenty-five non-payroll disbursements and inspect supporting documentation to determine:
  - Transaction is properly completed as required by agency procedures; invoice(s) agree(s) with general ledger as to vendor, amount, number, and date.
  - All supporting documents and approvals required by agency procedures and good business practice are present and agree with the invoice.
  - The transaction is a bona fide expenditure of the agency, properly coded to the general ledger.
  - Disbursement complied with all State laws, rules, and regulations including the State Consolidated Procurement Code, state travel regulations, etc.
  - Clerical accuracy / verify proper sales/use tax.
6. Randomly select twenty-five non-payroll disbursements and inspect supporting documentation to determine that disbursements are recorded in the proper fiscal year.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

**Payroll**

7. Compare current year payroll expenditures at the subfund and account level to those of the prior year. Obtain an understanding of variations over \$100,000 and 10%.

## **Payroll (Continued)**

8. Randomly select twenty-five employees and inspect supporting documentation during the fiscal year to:

For Salaried Employees:

- Obtain and inspect the employee's payroll and/or personnel file for various forms, communications, etc., to confirm that the person is a bona fide employee of the agency.
- Agree gross pay to supporting documentation noting all changes to gross salary for the year. Determine that all changes have been properly approved.

For Hourly Employees:

- Obtain and inspect the employee's payroll and/or personnel file for various forms, communications, etc., to confirm that the person is a bona fide employee of the agency.
- Confirm the hourly rate and time sheets are properly approved; recalculate gross pay.

For Senators:

- Agree taxable subsistence pay to appropriate rate and Senator's period session dates for randomly selected period.
- Verify that the Senator was paid \$10,400 during the fiscal year.

9. Randomly select ten bonus pay disbursements authorized by the 2015-2016 Supplemental Appropriations to determine:

- Employee is a permanent state employee in a full-time equivalent position who has been in continuous state service for at least six months prior to July 1, 2015.
- Employee does not make more than \$100,000 annually.
- Bonus pay was split between funds according to the ratio of the employee's base salary.

10. Randomly select fifteen employees hired during the fiscal year to determine if they were added to the payroll in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures and that their first pay check was properly calculated in accordance with applicable State law.

11. Randomly select sixteen employees who terminated employment during the fiscal year to determine if they were removed from the payroll in accordance with the agency's policies and procedures, that the employee's last pay check was properly calculated and that the employee's leave payout was properly calculated in accordance with applicable State law.

12. Compare the percentage change in personal service expenditures to the percentage change in employer contributions expenditures. Obtain an explanation of changes of +/- 10%.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

## **Journal Entries and Transfers**

13. Randomly select two non-recurring journal entries and three transfers for the fiscal year to:

- Trace postings to the general ledger, confirming amounts agree with supporting documentation.
- Confirm transaction is properly approved.
- Inspect supporting documentation to confirm the purpose of the transaction.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

## **Appropriation Act**

14. Inspect the Appropriation Act work program, provided to and completed by management, noting areas of noncompliance, if any.
15. Confirm compliance with agency-specific state provisos by inquiring with management and observing supporting documentation.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

## **Reporting Packages**

16. Obtain copies of fiscal year end reporting packages submitted to the Office of the State Comptroller General (CG). Inspect the Master Reporting Checklist to determine the appropriate reporting packages were prepared and submitted by the due date established by the CG's Reporting Policies and Procedures Manual.
17. In addition to the above procedure, we will perform the following:
  - Capital Assets Reporting Package:
    - Determine if responses are reasonable/accurate based on inspection of agency provided supporting documentation and agree amounts reported on the 'Non-SCEIS Agencies Only – Capital Assets Summary Report' to the agency's capital assets worksheet.
  - Other Payroll Liabilities Reporting Package:
    - Confirm that reported amounts agree to agency prepared reports/spreadsheets (agency not on SCEIS leave module).
  - Subsequent Events Questionnaire:
    - Confirm that responses and any related supplemental information are reasonable/accurate based on inspection of the SCEIS general ledger, invoices, and/or agency prepared reports/spreadsheets.

## **Finding**

The Senate incorrectly reported compensatory leave liability on its internally prepared spreadsheet for one employee. As a result, total reported leave liability was overstated by \$3,620 on the Other Payroll Liabilities Reporting Package.

## **Management's Response**

The above finding was a result of human error despite internal checks on the spreadsheet. We will continue to verify all figures entered to avoid keying errors in the future.