

Constitutional Offices

Dollars in 000s

Change Items by Agency	FY 14-15 Biennium	FY 16 - 17 Biennium
Secretary of State	2,000	2,000
REPLACEMENT FOR FEDERAL HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT FUNDS	2,000	2,000
<p>In FY03, Minnesota began receiving federal funds from the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) for election related expenses. In each subsequent biennium, these funds have supplemented the Office's budget by at least \$2 million and have been critical in the continued maintenance and improvement of Minnesota's statewide voter registration system, election results reporting system, and related online information tools for voters. HAVA funds also support local election officials and compliance with the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act. HAVA funds have been zeroed out of the federal budget. At this point in time, approximately \$1 million remains in the state's fund. This is an insufficient amount to fund our registration and reporting system in the coming biennium. These funds contribute to the Office's ability to provide efficient and accountable government services. These funds must be replaced to simply maintain the state's election systems.</p>		
General Fund		
Expenditure	1,000	2,000
Other Funds		
Expenditure	1,000	
State Auditor	(53)	59
Audit Practice Enterprise Fund	0	0
<p>Change the funding for the Audit Practice Division from a General Fund Appropriation for the auditing of local governments with audit costs recovered as non-dedicated receipt to an enterprise fund with dedicated receipts supporting the auditing activities.</p>		
General Fund		
Expenditure	(13,122)	(13,072)
Revenue	13,122	13,072
Other Funds		
Expenditure	13,122	13,072
Revenue	13,122	13,072
Rewrite the Small Cities and Towns Accounting System (CTAS) Software	0	0
<p>The Office of the State Auditor's Government Information Division provides and supports a governmental accounting software program called CTAS to approximately 1,300 small cities and towns. CTAS software needs to be rewritten using a modern programming language to continue functioning properly.</p>		
General Fund		
Expenditure	300	85
Revenue	300	85
Replace Investment Rate of Return Software	20	
<p>The Office of the State Auditor's Pension Division is required to calculate comparable investment rates of returns for local police and fire pension plans as part of the Division's annual legislative reporting. The current software being used is over 15 years old, inefficient, no longer supported, and does not run on newer operating systems such as Windows 7. The cost is a preliminary number. We should have a more firm number by the end of November.</p>		
General Fund		
Expenditure	20	

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Staff Retention	83	215
<p>Office of the State Auditor's salary costs accounts for approximately 90% of the Office's expenditures. Increasing salary and health care costs continue to put pressure on the Office of the State Auditor's ability to retain staff. This change item will help the State Auditor retain the necessary highly qualified staff to carry out the duties and perform the oversight work of the office.</p> <p>The impact of this change item is minimized by the requirement under Minn. Stat. § 6.58 that all audit costs be recovered through fees. Fees are non-dedicated revenues deposited in the General Fund.</p>		
General Fund		
Expenditure	1,444	1,841
Revenue	1,361	1,626
Move JOBZ Oversight	(156)	(156)
<p>Minnesota Session Laws 2005, 1st Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 7, Section 19 gave the Office of the State Auditor oversight over the creation and operation of all job opportunity building zones (JOBZ) and business subsidy agreements entered into under the JOBZ Act. JOBZ at the time of the statutory change was being administered at the local level.</p> <p>A change in the JOBZ program by the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) in late 2009 shifted administration of the program from local governments to DEED. Therefore, a legislative change is needed to remove the Office of the State Auditor as the oversight authority of the JOBZ program. JOBZ is a state program administered at the state level. The Office of the Legislative Auditor is charged with overseeing state government programs, so oversight of the program should be moved to the Legislative Auditor.</p>		
General Fund		
Expenditure	(156)	(156)
Grand Total	1,947	2,059