

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**February 12, 2024**  
**9:00 A.M., HHR 1**

**Members of the public may access a livestream of the meeting here:**

<https://www.azleg.gov/videoplayer/?clientID=6361162879&eventID=2024021017>

### **Members Present:**

Senator Sonny Borrelli, Chair 2023  
Senator David C. Farnsworth  
Senator Anthony Kern  
Senator Juan Mendez  
Senator Catherine Miranda

Representative Matt Gress, Chair 2024  
Representative Michael Carbone  
Representative Timothy M. Dunn  
Representative Alma Hernandez

### **Members Excused:**

Senator Warren Petersen, Ex-officio

Representative Marcelino Quiñonez  
Representative Ben Toma, Ex-officio

### **Staff:**

Anna Nguyen, Senate Research Staff  
Hunter Smith, Senate Research Intern  
Joel Hobbins, House Research Staff  
Casey Edwards, House Research Intern

Chairman Gress called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and attendance was noted.

## **AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE (OFFICE) FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, distributed a booklet entitled "Joint Legislative Audit Committee" (Attachment A). Ms. Perry gave an overview of the Office of the Auditor General's fiscal year 2023 report (Attachment A, Tab 1) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

## **OFFICE UPDATES REGARDING JLAC-DIRECTED SCHOOL DISTRICT PERFORMANCE AUDIT FOLLOW-UP REPORTS**

The Committee offered comments.

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, outlined the Office's performance audit follow-up reports of three public school districts: Peach Springs Unified School District, Hackberry Elementary School District and Gadsden Elementary School District (Attachment A, Tab 2). Ms. Perry answered questions posed by the Committee.

## **BUCKEYE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT PERFORMANCE AUDIT, APRIL 2022 REPORT AND 18-MONTH FOLLOW-UP REPORT**

### **Presentation by Office**

**Karl Calderon, Auditor General's Office**, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Buckeye Elementary School District, Report 2 of 2" (Attachment B) and audit report (Attachment A, Tab 3).

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

### **Presentation by Buckeye Elementary School District**

**Denise Lowell-Britt, Attorney, representing Buckeye Elementary School District**, offered comments regarding the audit report and recommendations. Ms. Lowell-Britt answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Perry answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Lowell-Britt answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

**Dr. Chad Lanese, Superintendent, Buckeye Elementary School District**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Lowell-Britt answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

**Richard Hopkins, School Board Member, Buckeye Elementary School District**, offered comments regarding the school district's performance and answered questions posed by the Committee.

# **BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND SUNSET REVIEW, JULY 2010 REPORT AND 18-MOTH FOLLOW-UP REPORT, AND SUNSET SELF-REVIEW SUMMARY REPORT, OCTOBER 2021**

## **Presentation by Office**

**Jeff Gove, Director, Performance Audit Division, Auditor General's Office**, distributed and explained a presentation entitled "Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Performance Audit and Sunset Review" (Attachment C) and audit report (Attachment A, Tab 5).

Representative Gress offered comments and distributed a letter written by Senator Shamp dated February 12, 2024 (Attachment D).

## **Presentation by Board of Chiropractic Examiners**

No presentation took place.

## **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SPECIAL AUDIT OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS**

**Senator Shamp, Legislative District 29**, offered comments and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Gress offered comments.

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

**Senator Borrelli moved that the Joint Legislative Audit Committee approve a resolution directing the Auditor General to conduct or cause to be conducted a special audit of the Arizona Board of Chiropractic Examiners. The special audit will review the Board's practices in 7 areas:**

- 1. The Board's subpoenas for information related to complaint investigations, in particular whether the Board requests only information relevant to its investigations.**
- 2. The Board's application of its statutes and rules, in particular whether the Board has consistently applied its statutes and rules over time and to all licensees.**
- 3. The Board's handling of allegations involving criminal wrongdoing.**
- 4. The Board's handling of its complaint backlog.**
- 5. Board members' and/or staffs' participation in lobbying and advocacy activities.**

**6. The Board's compliance with the State's open meeting law, in particular its compliance with requirements related to the call to the public.**

**7. The role of the Board's executive director, including but not limited to how the executive director ensures consistency in Board practices despite changes in board members and how the executive director communicates changes in Board practices to licensees and the public.**

**The Auditor General may contract for all or a portion of the special audit work as necessary. A report outlining the special audit conclusions should be submitted by December 31, 2024, to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Governor, and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.**

**The motion CARRIED with a roll call vote of 6-2-2 (Attachment 1)**

Senators Mendez, Miranda, Borrelli, and Representatives Hernandez and Gress explained their votes.

#### **OFFICE PRESENTATION REGARDING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL RISK PROCESS AND RESULTS, DECEMBER 2023 ANALYSIS REPORT**

Representative Gress offered comments.

**Megan Hieger, Auditor General's Office**, explained the "School District Financial Risk Process and Results, December 2023 Analysis Report" (Attachment A, Tab 4) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Lindsey Perry, Auditor General**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Ms. Hieger answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee offered comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brigid Fitzgerald  
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)