

Elected auditor proposed by Pyle

(MSC News)--The State of Kansas needs an audit, and the people of the state should select who conducts it.

That's the goal behind legislation being introduced in the Kansas Legislature.

The legislation is requested by Republican Senator Dennis Pyle.

According to a press release issued by Pyle, the legislation would require the election of a State Auditor for one four year term, which will expire and go away unless the office can find enough waste, fraud, and abuse equal to or exceeding its budget. "Kansas needs an investigative auditor that is answerable to the electorate for greater transparency, accountability, and confidence reasons. Given the recent findings of misuse, which took some thirty years to discover, it is apparent a full audit of all branches of state government should happen. A full transparent accounting of every receipt and expenditure will allow sunshine into state government activities and restore some confidence to the citizenry."

The release states that the Legislative Post Audit, a division of the legislature, recently audited the transportation weighting of the school finance formula, uncovering the fact that funds were being allocated to certain districts without statutory authority. "With Kansas facing many challenges, including the pending school finance case, making sure every taxpayer dollar is accounted for and spent for the purpose it was appropriated, is more relevant than ever. An elected auditor assigned to a specific task to be thoroughly completed and reported within the four year time frame could potentially be a great investment with a great return."

Pyle, of rural Hiawatha, represents the 1st District of Kansas, which includes all of Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Nemaha, and parts of Marshall and Pottawatomie counties.

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