

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 3 - 0 - 2
Yeas: Bonamici, Monroe, Shields
Nays: 0
Exc.: Boquist, George
Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/25, 5/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates requirement that Secretary of State audit a Governor elect's expenses incurred prior to taking office. Removes requirement for Secretary of State to audit claims against the War Veterans' Bond Sinking Account. Removes requirement for the Secretary of State to annually audit the expenses of the Department of Aviation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Maintains option to conduct audits at discretion of Secretary of State

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2248 eliminates the statutory requirement that the Secretary of State Audits Division perform three different types of audits: on the expenses of incoming governors elect incurred prior to taking office; claims against the War Veterans' Board Sinking Account; and expenses of the Department of Aviation. However, the Secretary of State maintains the right to perform the audits at his or her own discretion.

Currently, transition budgets make the reimbursement of expenses for governors elect unnecessary, thereby eliminating the need for audits. The annual statewide audit currently encompasses claims against the Veterans Sinking Fund, and the Department of Aviation is currently the only agency statutorily subject to an annual audit of expenses.