

HOUSE BILL NO. 515
INTRODUCED BY P. MORGAN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR LIMITED-SCOPE PERFORMANCE AUDITS ON THE ALLOCATION OF STAFF RESOURCES FOR SELECTED EXECUTIVE BRANCH PROGRAMS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Performance audit on allocation of staff resources within selected programs. (1) As part of its duty to monitor the operation of assigned executive branch agencies, an interim committee provided for in 5-5-202 shall select at least two programs to be subject to a limited-scope performance audit on the allocation of staff resources within the programs, including an examination of the appropriateness of the type and number of positions.

(2) The interim committee shall notify the legislative audit committee of the programs selected under subsection (1). If the audit committee determines that sufficient resources are available to conduct a limited-scope performance audit on the programs selected, the legislative audit committee shall direct the legislative auditor to conduct the audits. If sufficient resources are not available, the legislative audit committee shall direct the legislative auditor to conduct those audits for which resources are available.

(3) The legislative audit committee shall report the findings, conclusions, and recommendations for each program subject to an audit to the appropriate interim committee by July 1, 2004. After review and consideration of the audit report, the interim committee may:

- (a) recommend legislation to implement the audit recommendations, if appropriate;
- (b) notify the legislative fiscal analyst of the audit findings, conclusions, and recommendations and any recommendations from the interim committee for consideration in preparing the legislative analysis of the executive budget for the biennium beginning July 1, 2005; and
- (c) take any other action that the committee finds appropriate regarding issues on the allocation of staff resources within the audited program.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "program" means any legislatively or administratively created function, project, or duty of an executive branch agency.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Termination.** [This act] terminates December 31, 2004.

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