

NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley State Auditor

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February 22, 2024

Office of Auditor of State Room 111 State Capitol Building Des Moines, IA 50319

RE: Iowa Senate File 2311

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Nebraska State Auditor, I wanted to express my concerns with Iowa Senate File 2311. I would oppose any attempt to limit the ability to conduct annual audits or oversight from the State Auditor. Allowing any State agency to select and hire its own auditor would fly in the face of governmental auditor independence – because the audit firm selected would necessarily be reliant upon the approval and satisfaction of the hiring agency for both its current pay and any hope of future work, significantly decreasing the likelihood of a negative opinion. This is an essential element for the oversight and proper spending of public funds. Proper oversight by the State Auditor is necessary to help prevent fraud, waste, and abuse.

I would respectfully request you to consider the limitations with the proposed changes in Iowa Senate File 2311.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contract me.

Sincerely,

Mike Foley

Auditor of Public Accounts