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GOVERNMENT CODE - GOV

TITLE 2. GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA [8000 - 22980] (Title 2 enacted by Stats. 1943, Ch. 134.) DIVISION 2. LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT [8902 - 10606] (Division 2 enacted by Stats. 1943, Ch. 134.) PART 2. AIDS TO THE LEGISLATURE [10200 - 10606] (Part 2 added by Stats. 1945, Ch. 111.) CHAPTER 4. Legislative Audit Bureau [10500 - 10504.1] (Chapter 4 added by Stats. 1955, Ch. 1699.)

ARTICLE 1. Joint Legislative Audit Committee [10500 - 10504.1] (Article 1 added by Stats. 1955, Ch. 1699.)

10500. It is the desire of the Legislature to create the Office of the Auditor General, whose primary duties shall be to perform performance audits as may be requested by the Legislature. The authority of the office under the direction of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee is confined to examining and reporting and is in no way to interfere with adequate internal audit to be conducted by the executive branch of the government or the state audit or other audits required by statute to be performed by the State Auditor.

The Legislature also finds that a significant portion of the state budget consists of subventions to local governments and, therefore, it is necessary for the Legislature to establish independent fiscal oversight capability necessary to determine funding priorities and to evaluate the efficiency and necessity of state-supported local programs and state programs administered by local governments.

(Amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 12, Sec. 9. Effective May 7, 1993.)

10501. The Joint Legislative Audit Committee is hereby created. The committee shall determine the policies of the Auditor General, ascertain facts, review reports and take action thereon, and make reports and recommendations to the Legislature and to the houses thereof concerning the state audit, the revenues and expenditures of the State, its departments, subdivisions, and agencies whether created by the Constitution or otherwise, and such other matters as may be provided for in the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly. The committee has a continuing existence and may meet, act, and conduct its business at any place within this State, during the sessions of the Legislature or any recess thereof, and in the interim period between sessions.

(Added by Stats. 1955, Ch. 1699.)

10502. The committee shall consist of seven Members of the Senate and seven Members of the Assembly who shall be selected in the manner provided for in the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly. The committee shall elect its own chairman. Vacancies occurring in the membership of the committee between general sessions of the Legislature shall be filled in the manner provided for in the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly. A vacancy shall be deemed to exist as to any member of the committee whose term is expiring whenever such member is not reelected at the general election.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 833, Sec. 1.5. Effective September 19, 1985.)

10503. The committee is authorized to make rule governing its own proceedings and to create subcommittees from its membership and assign to such subcommittees any study, inquiry, investigation, or hearing which the committee itself has authority to undertake or hold. The provisions of Rule 36 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly relating to investigating committees shall apply to the committee and it shall have such powers, duties and responsibilities as the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly shall from time to time prescribe, and all the powers conferred upon committees by Section 11, Article IV, of the Constitution.

(Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1159.)

10504. After recommendation by the committee, the Auditor General shall be selected by concurrent resolution and shall serve until his or her successor is selected or until his or her removal by concurrent resolution. When the Legislature is not in session, the committee may suspend the Auditor General until the Legislature reconvenes. When the Legislature is in session, the committee may suspend the Auditor General for a period not to exceed 30 days. When there is a vacancy in the office of Auditor General, the Chairman of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee shall select an acting Auditor General until an Auditor General is selected by the Legislature. The committee shall fix the salary of the Auditor General, deputies, and staff. The funds for the support of the committee shall be provided from the Contingent Funds of the Assembly and Senate in the same manner that those funds are made available to other joint committees of the Legislature.

(Amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 361, Sec. 2. Effective August 28, 1987.)

 $\underline{\textbf{10504.1.}}$ At least one deputy auditor general shall be a certified public accountant.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 833, Sec. 2. Effective September 19, 1985.)