

April 1, 2016

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98501-0002

Subject: Veto Request

Dear Governor Inslee:

MRSC respectfully requests a veto of Section 134, page 41 lines 13 and 14, appropriating \$10 million of the Performance Audit of Government Account to the Department of Revenue.

MRSC has worked closely with the Performance Audit team on the current assessment of the full costs of State and local government compliance with the Public Records Act (PRA). This study is the first comprehensive examination of the impact of advances in digital records technology on the frequency and scope of public records requests. Its data-based approach will provide a critical benchmark for legislators who are seeking consensus solutions to the challenges that the PRA poses for local and State government.

MRSC has also worked in partnership with the Local Government Performance Center (LGPC) to create a series of web-based, practical tools for local government. One such tool, *Finding Your Contracting and Purchasing Requirements*, gives local government a step-by-step guide to navigating these complex legal rules that commonly trigger audit findings. This invaluable tool helps cities, counties and special districts steer clear of common mistakes and avoid audit findings.

This funding also supports LGPC's work to create and sustain a culture of innovation within government. It has spawned creative networks, including the Government Performance Consortium, that are just beginning to catalyze the benefits of the LEAN trainings, innovation forums, performance internships, and performance measurement networking sponsored by the Auditor's Office. These efforts are creating real cost savings and advances in productivity that are essential to local government success.

For years, local governments have viewed the Auditor's Office as a potential adversary rather than as a partner. The Performance Audit Team's emphasis on training, practical tools, and cost-saving innovations has done a great deal to change that perception. All of this important work depends on adequate funding of the Performance Audit Team of the Auditor's Office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Charlie Bush
MRSC Board President