

Washington State Senate

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Senator Mark A. Miloscia 30th Legislative District

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March 31, 2016

The Honorable Jay Inslee PO Box 40002 Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Inslee:

I write asking for a partial veto of an operating budget item diverting \$10 million dollars away from the State Auditor's Office via the Performance Audits of Government Account.

Overall, the budget passed by legislators this week serves the citizens of Washington extremely well. It builds off of the success of the 2015-17 biennial budget, and is a responsible accomplishment we can all be proud of. Critical investments are made to address to homelessness; mental health; wildfires; low-income healthcare; and education.

Despite these positive outcomes, one budget item continues to concern me. Section 134 of the operating budget, ESHB 2376, is an appropriation to the Department of Revenue of \$10M from the Performance Audits of Government Account. These funds would ordinarily go to the State Auditor's Office to conduct needed government performance audits. These audits are a necessary element of ensuring government remains efficient and accountable.

This appropriation can be vetoed by deleting the appropriation in Section 134 on lines 13 through 14 of page 41 of the striking amendment, along with related language in section 925.

I know you will take this request seriously and I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Miloscia

State Senator, District 30

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