

CHAPTER 357

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL 24-1462

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Bird and Sirota, Taggart, Bacon, Clifford, Frizell, Hamrick, Jodeh, Ortiz, Pugliese, Snyder, Soper, Velasco, Weissman, McCluskie;
also SENATOR(S) Bridges and Zenzinger, Kirkmeyer, Baisley, Buckner, Coleman, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Liston, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Priola, Smallwood, Will.

AN ACT

CONCERNING A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS' BUDGET PRACTICES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 2-3-130 as follows:

2-3-130. Audit - department of corrections - budget practices - third-party auditor. AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, BUT NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2024, THE STATE AUDITOR SHALL ENGAGE A THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, CREATED IN SECTION 24-1-128.5. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, THE EVALUATION MUST EXAMINE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS' BUDGET PRACTICES, INCLUDING PERSONNEL-RELATED COSTS, CONTRACT STAFF SPENDING, OPERATIONAL COSTS DRIVEN BY CASELOAD, USER FEES LEVIED, AND THE CASH FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. THE THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE EVALUATION AND UPDATE THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE AND LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE WITH PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY MARCH 1, 2025. THE THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANT SHALL REPORT ITS FINAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT, THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE, AND THE LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE BY JUNE 30, 2025.

SECTION 2. Appropriation. For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, \$400,000 is appropriated to the legislative department for use by the office of the state auditor.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

This appropriation is from the general fund. The office may use this appropriation to implement this act.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: June 3, 2024