

Senate Finance

04/24/2025 Upon Adjournment

SB25-306 Performance Audits of Certain State Agencies

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Rhonnie Champeno Against ATU Local 1001</p>	<p>Senate Finance Committee,</p> <p>I am writing express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 25-306. As a union representative and a proud member of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1001, I am deeply committed to fostering transparency, accountability, and fairness in governance. However, I believe this proposed measure undermines these principles rather than advancing them.</p> <p>While audits are essential tools for promoting accountability, they are effective only when they are targeted and purposeful. Broad, unfocused audits of entire agencies are inefficient and fail to address specific concerns. Instead, I urge the committee to support measures that focus on particular programs or identified challenges, yielding meaningful insights without unnecessarily disrupting essential operations.</p> <p>The proposal to inspect the Division of Labor Standards and Statistics (DLSS) raises significant concerns. This agency plays a vital role in enforcing labor laws and protecting workers' rights—a mission that unions, including ATU Local 1001, and workers alike rely upon. Targeting this agency with sweeping inspections not only lacks justification but also appears to be a politically motivated attack that undermines the progress made in promoting equity and fairness.</p> <p>It is especially troubling that no specific concerns or deficiencies have been presented to warrant such measures. Moreover, many of the programs under DLSS are new, having been implemented only recently. These initiatives, including the Wage Recovery Assistance Program, have already demonstrated positive impacts, helping workers reclaim stolen wages while holding unethical businesses accountable. Disrupting programs like these is counterproductive and would set back the progress unions and workers have fought tirelessly to achieve.</p> <p>In conclusion, this proposed measure does not enhance transparency or accountability. Instead, it risks destabilizing the very structures that protect workers and promote fairness.</p>

	<p>I respectfully urge the committee to reject this proposal and focus on fostering targeted, constructive solutions that support agencies in their mission to serve the public effectively.</p> <p>Thank you for considering this perspective. I welcome any opportunity to discuss these concerns further and provide additional insights.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Rhonnie Champeno ATU 1001</p>
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