



State of Wisconsin  
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4439/1  
MPG:klm

## 2015 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 90

February 1, 2016 - Introduced by Senators COWLES, DARLING, BEWLEY, VINEHOUT and LAZICH, cosponsored by Representatives KERKMAN, MACCO, NYGREN, SARGENT and BERCEAU. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** commending the Legislative Audit Bureau on the occasion of its 50th  
2             year of service to the legislature.

3             Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau was created on September 1, 1966, by  
4     Chapter 659, Laws of Wisconsin 1965, as a nonpartisan legislative service agency  
5     under the jurisdiction of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization; and

6             Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau is responsible for conducting financial  
7     audits and performance evaluations to assist the legislature in its oversight function;  
8     and

9             Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau's authority extends to executive,  
10    legislative, and judicial agencies; authorities created by the legislature; special  
11    districts; and certain service providers that receive state funds; and

12            Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau's purpose is to provide assurance to the  
13    legislature that financial transactions and management decisions are made  
14    effectively, efficiently, and in compliance with state law and that state agencies carry  
15    out the policies of the legislature and the governor; and

1           Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau has reviewed financial transactions,  
2 performed analyses of agency performance and public policy issues, formulated  
3 conclusions regarding the causes of problems found, and developed  
4 recommendations for improvement; and

5           Whereas, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee was created on May 5, 1976,  
6 by Chapter 224, Laws of Wisconsin 1975, with advisory responsibilities for the  
7 Legislative Audit Bureau; directs the Legislative Audit Bureau to conduct audits  
8 and evaluations; receives and reviews reports issued by the Legislative Audit  
9 Bureau; holds public hearings on Legislative Audit Bureau reports; and introduces  
10 legislation pertaining to Legislative Audit Bureau recommendations; and

11           Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau operates the Fraud, Waste, and  
12 Mismanagement Hotline, as established by 2007 Wisconsin Act 126, to allow the  
13 public and individuals within state government to report suspected fraud and other  
14 improper acts by state agencies, employees, and contractors; and

15           Whereas, the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization has appointed four  
16 State Auditors to lead the Legislative Audit Bureau's capable staff of nonpartisan  
17 accountability professionals since its creation, including Robert Ringwood  
18 (1968-1978); Dale Cattanach (1979-1998); Janice Mueller (1998-2011); and Joe  
19 Chrisman (2011 to present); and

20           Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau has consistently received unqualified  
21 opinions on its system of quality control for financial audits from the National State  
22 Auditors Association, which is the highest level of assurance that can be given for a  
23 system of audit quality control; and

24           Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau has consistently received national  
25 recognition for the impact, scope, and quality of its performance evaluations from the

1 National Legislative Program Evaluation Society of the National Conference of  
2 State Legislatures; and

3 Whereas, the contributions of the Legislative Audit Bureau to the field of  
4 auditing and evaluation has extended beyond Wisconsin's borders through service  
5 of its management and staff in professional organizations, including the National  
6 State Auditors Association; the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers  
7 and Treasurers; the National Legislative Program Evaluation Society; and the  
8 National Conference of State Legislatures; and

9 Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau, in conjunction with its sister  
10 legislative service agencies the Legislative Technology Services Bureau, the  
11 Legislative Reference Bureau, the Legislative Council Staff, and the Legislative  
12 Fiscal Bureau, serves an integral function in support of the legislature and  
13 Wisconsin state government; and

14 Whereas, the Legislative Audit Bureau will observe its 50th anniversary on  
15 September 1, 2016; now, therefore, be it

16 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the  
17 legislature congratulate the Legislative Audit Bureau on 50 years of service to the  
18 legislature; recognize its long tradition of objectivity, independence, and  
19 nonpartisanship; and thank its leadership and staff for the professional service it has  
20 rendered to the legislature and to the citizens of the state; and, be it further

21 **Resolved, That** the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint  
22 resolution to State Auditor Joe Chrisman and the staff of the Legislative Audit  
23 Bureau.

24

(END)