

HB0756/314262/1

BY: Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 756

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike beginning with “authorizing” in line 4 down through “circumstances;” in line 8; in line 13, after “Office” insert “of Legislative Audits”; in line 16, strike the comma and substitute “and”; strike beginning with the comma in line 17 down through “inquiries” in line 18 and substitute “; requiring the Office, in coordination with the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the State Prosecutor, to evaluate and develop certain statutory and regulatory language; requiring the Office to report its findings to a certain committee of the General Assembly on or before a certain date”; and in line 27, strike “2–1223 and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 2 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 20 on page 2 through line 11 on page 4, inclusive.

On page 5, in line 19, after “**ABUSE;**” insert “**AND**”; in line 23, strike the semicolon and substitute a period; strike in their entirety lines 24 through 30, inclusive; after line 30, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Office of Legislative Audits shall, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the State Prosecutor, evaluate and develop appropriate statutory or regulatory language to:

(1) enhance the authority, duties, and powers of the Office of Legislative Audits related to investigations of acts or allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse conducted under its authority under § 2–1220 of the State Government Article;

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(2) coordinate and cooperate with appropriate prosecutorial entities to maximize the effectiveness of investigations of acts or allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse conducted by the Office of Legislative Audits; and

(3) require State agencies to report any instance of possible criminal or unethical behavior in the obligation, expenditure, receipt, or use of State resources at the agency to the Office of Legislative Audits, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

(b) On or before December 1, 2021, the Office of Legislative Audits shall, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, report on the findings under subsection (a) of this section to the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee.”;

and in line 31, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”.