2011 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HB 1145

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Political Subdivisions Committee

Prairie Room, State Capitol

HB 1145 January 14, 2011 Job # 12911

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	Baruli				
Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:					
Relating to political subdivision reports in lieu of audits.					
Minutes:	Testimony 1				

Chairman Johnson: Opened the hearing on HB 1145.

Gordy Smith, Deputy to the State Auditor: The primary change is just on page 2, Section 3. The code sets up for political subdivisions that needs to have an audit and if they are small enough they are able to file a report annual with our office. If they are in excess of threshold, then they are required to have an audit every two years. If you have cities that are more than 500 in a city or more than 100 in a school district they are required to have an audit once every two years. If you are one of those political subs that have less than those thresholds, then you are able to file a report. That also gets file with our office and is an annual requirement and we also. (See testimony 1). We would support the change in the bill.

Rep. Klemin: Could you address why you deleted the language on line 13 & 14, page 2.

Gordy Smith: They are just trying to dissolve the difference between Park and Soil Districts. They had a \$200,000 and all others had a \$100,000. The language is just supposed to say they are all \$200,000.

Rep. Zaiser: Do you think it would make any sense to have financial reviews for those mid range political subdivisions.

Gordy Smith: I haven't thought about that. The problem with having something just calling it a financial review; what will that entail for financial reviews I don't know how thorough that would be. When we get these reports from these; they are unsure of how to file these reports and we have two retired gentlemen that work part time for us that use to work in our office who handle those. When those smaller districts have a concern on how to fill it out they will call so we try to guide them through, but a financial review, I don't know what all you would do and I don't know who would do it.

Rep. Zaiser: I guess there are no standards for a financial review. I guess I thought that a financial review would be more in-depth than a report.

Opposition: None

Hearing closed.

Chairman Johnson: Reopened the hearing on HB 1145.

Do Pass Motion Made by Rep. Maragos: Seconded by Rep. Kilichowski

Vote: 14 Yes 0 No 0 Absent Carried

Carrier: Rep. Zaiser:

Hearing closed.

FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council 01/06/2011

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1145

1A. State fiscal effect: Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to

funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2009-2011 Biennium General Fund Other Funds		2011-2013	Biennium	2013-2015 Biennium		
			General Fund Other Funds		General Fund	Other Funds	
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,750		\$3,750	
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,750		\$3,750	
Appropriations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	

1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect: Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2009-2011 Biennium			2011-2013 Biennium			2013-2015 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

2A. Bill and fiscal impact summary: Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).

Local governments with less than \$200,000 of annual receipts would not need an audit. Instead, they could submit an annual report to the State Auditor's Office.

B. Fiscal impact sections: Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.

Section 1, page 2, would allow local governments to submit an annual report, rather than have an audit.

- 3. State fiscal effect detail: For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:
 - A. Revenues: Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.
- \$3,750. 50 audit reports per biennium at \$75. each.
 - B. Expenditures: Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.
- \$3,750. Hour fee of \$37.50 times 100 hours per biennium.
 - C. Appropriations: Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.

The appropriation amounts in 3.A. and 3.B. above are included in the executive budget.

Name:	Ed Nagel	Agency:	Office of State Auditor
Phone Number:	328-4782	Date Prepared:	01/10/2011

Date: 1-14-/ Roll Call Vote #: 1

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL/RESOLUTION NO. // 4/5

House Political Subdivisions					nittee
☐ Check here for Conference Co	mmitte	e			
Legislative Council Amendment Num	ber _	<u></u> .			
Action Taken 💢 Do Pass 🗌 Amendment	Do No	ot Pass	Amended Ado	pt	
Motion Made By Dan			Reconsider	cho	ushi'
Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairmain Nancy Johnson	1	<u></u>	Rep. Kilichowski	1	
Vice Chairman Hatelstad			Rep. Shirley Meyer		<u> </u>
Rep. Beadle	V	ļ. <u>.</u> .	Rep. Mock	1	
Rep. Devlin	V	 	Rep. Zaiser	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	1
Rep. Heilman	1/				
Rep. Klemin					
Rep. Koppelman	V/	ļ		 	1
Rep. Kretschmar	1	<u> </u>		-	
Rep. Maragos	1	<u> </u>			4
Rep. Pietsch	V	ļ			
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	<u></u>	<u>l</u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Total (Yes) 14		\	lo <u></u>		
Absent			0		
Floor Assignment	ρ. ΄	3,	iur)		
If the vote is on an amendment, brid	efly indic	cate inte	ent:		

Com Standing Committee Report January 14, 2011 10:40am

Module ID: h_stcomrep_09_002 Carrier: Zaiser

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1145: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. N. Johnson, Chairman) recommends

DO PASS (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1145 was placed
on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

Page 1 (1) DESK (3) COMMITTEE h_stcomrep_09_002 **2011 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS**

HB 1145

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Red River Room, State Capitol

HB 1145 March 10, 2011 15238

1	 Conference	Committee
		Commutee

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to political subdivision reports in lieu of audits.

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Andrist opened the committee hearing on HB 1145.

Gordy Smith: State Auditor's Office. Testified in neutral position for HB 1145. See written testimony.

Senator Olafson: Can you explain the fiscal note? I am wondering why there is a change both in revenues and in expenditures.

Gordy Smith: Currently if we receive an audit from a political subdivision we review that audit to make sure it's in the form and content of what it is supposed to be. We charge so much for that, there are limits in there. If we receive these reports we charge a different amount because they are not nearly as complex. What that is for, is for those fire districts that now require an audit. We're going to lessen the number of them and we're going to increase this one. So there is a little bit of a difference in the revenue. That is all the fiscal note should be.

Senator Olafson: Why is there change in both revenues and expenditures? Gordy Smith: I am guessing it would be from our standpoint that says revenues and expenditures. We would say from our perspective the net appropriation difference would be negligible, be 0, so we would just estimated 20 or 30 if I remember correctly at \$75.00 each versus how many we would spend per hour under the expenditures line item. We have hourly fees at \$37.50 times 100 hours per biennium. We are going to have more of these reports to review so that we are just trying to point out that any difference would be negligible. We'll spend more time doing those reports but less time doing audits. That is supposed to be the intent.

Senator Andrist: Any others want to testify in favor, opposition or neutral position on HB 1145.

Closed hearing on HB 1145.

Minutes:

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee HB 1145 March 10, 2011 Page 2

Moved Do Pass: Senator Judy Lee 2nd: Senator Olafson

Roll call vote:

Carrier: Senator Judy Lee

Date:	3	10/201	//	
Roll C	all	Vote#_	/	

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL/RESOLUTION NO. ////

Senate Political Subdivisions					
Check here for Conference (Committe	e			
Legislative Council Amendment Nu	mber _	<u> </u>			
Action Taken:	Do Not	Pass	Amended Adopt	t Amen	dment
Rerefer to A	ppropriat	tions	Reconsider		·
Motion Made By		Se	econded By	<u> </u>	
Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman John Andrist			Senator Curtis Olafson	V	
V. Chairman Lonnie Laffen		_			
V. Chairman Lonnie Lanen			Senator Jim Dotzenrod		
Senator Judy Lee				<u> </u>	
				<u> </u>	
		1			
Total (Yes)		N	lo		
Absent					
Floor Assignment Ju	ly Lu				

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Com Standing Committee Report March 17, 2011 12:08pm

Module ID: s_stcomrep_48_006 Carrier: J. Lee

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1145: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Andrist, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1145 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(1) DESK (3) COMMITTEE Page 1 s_stcomrep_48_006

2011 TESTIMONY

HB 1145





PHONE (701) 328-2241 FAX (701) 328-1406

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE

HB 1145

Presented by Gordy L. Smith, CPA

Good morning Madam Chairman and members of the Political Subdivision committee. I am here this morning to testify in support of HB 1145. Currently there is an inequity in reporting/auditing requirements for political subdivisions (other than counties, cities and school districts).

Soil conservation districts and park districts are required to obtain an audit if they have \$200,000 or more of annual receipts. All other political subdivisions (other than counties, cities and school districts) have a threshold of \$100,000 in annual receipts for determining whether an audit is required. In all cases, if a political subdivision falls below the threshold established in law, they file an annual report with our office.

A fire district would be an example of a political subdivision which has a \$100,000 threshold for requiring an audit. Most fire districts have annual receipts in the \$20,000 to \$30,000 range. However when a fire district receives a grant to purchase a new fire truck or construct a new building or building addition it usually pushes their receipts beyond the threshold. As a result the fire district would be required to obtain an audit which can be expensive. These types of grants obtained do not typically include any funding for audits.

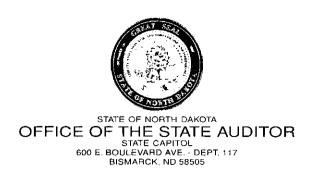
We do not believe that this change will dramatically affect the number of political subdivisions that are required to obtain an audit.

Madam Chairman that would conclude my testimony and I would be happy to answer any questions.









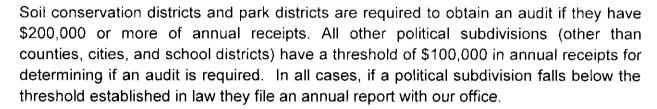
PHONE (701) 328-2241 FAX (701) 328-1406

TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE

HB 1145

Presented by Gordy L. Smith, CPA

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Political Subdivision committee. I am here this morning to testify in the neutral position on HB 1145. Currently there may be some inequity in reporting/auditing requirements for political subdivisions other than counties, cities, and school districts.



A fire district would be an example of a political subdivision which has a \$100,000 threshold for requiring an audit. Most fire districts have annual receipts in the \$20,000 to \$30,000 range. However, when a fire district receives a grant to purchase a new fire truck or construct a new building or building addition, it usually pushes their receipts beyond the threshold. As a result the fire district would then be required to obtain an audit which can be relatively expensive despite the fact the grant obtained did not include any funding for such an audit.

We do not believe that this change will dramatically affect the number of political subdivisions that are required to obtain an audit.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my testimony and I would be happy to answer any questions.

