

LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE APRIL 10, 2026 MINUTES

The Legislative Performance Audit and Oversight Committee met on Friday, April 10, 2026 at 9:00 AM at 1 Granite Place, Room 234.

Members in attendance were as follows:

Rep. Gerald Griffin, Chair
Rep. Mary Jane Wallner
Rep. Keith Erf
Rep. Ken Weyler
Sen. Cindy Rosenwald, Vice Chair
Sen. Timothy Lang (arrived late)
Sen. Howard Pearl (arrived late)

The meeting was called to order by Representative Griffin at 9:02 AM.

Vote on Acceptance of the March 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Senator Rosenwald, seconded by Representative Erf, that the minutes of the March 6, 2026, meeting be accepted. **MOTION ADOPTED.**

Status of Ongoing Performance Audits

Christine Young, Director of Audits for the LBA, and Jay Henry, Performance Audit Supervisor, provided updates on current LBA performance audits.

NHED Oversight of Special Education

Christine Young explained the report is being written and the audit team has completed 39 observations. The LBA has identified 80 observations and hopes to have a draft report in the second quarter of calendar year 2026 and a final report in the Summer of 2026.

NHED Oversight of Education Freedom Accounts

Christine Young noted the audit team is currently writing observations. Twenty-seven of 42 of the planned observations have been completed. Five observations are currently in management review status, and three observations are being drafted. Christine Young

stated the LBA hopes to have a draft report in the second quarter of calendar year 2026 and a final report in the Summer of 2026.

Doorway Program

Christine Young noted that we have a draft report with 15 observations. The report was sent to the Department of Health and Human Services on March 30, and we expect to receive the auditee responses by April 24. The LBA is expecting to present the report at the May Fiscal Committee meeting.

Review of Responsiveness to Prior Performance Audits

Commission for Human Rights

Raymond Pinard, Chairman, and Katrina Taylor, Executive Director, were in attendance to discuss the February 2025 Commission for Human Rights audit.

Raymond Pinard stated 22 of the observations were complete, with three observations still outstanding. He explained that the hiring of two new investigators will help cases to be processed in a timelier manner. He also stated that a formal risk assessment has been drafted, and a comprehensive performance measurement was near completion. He noted that the three outstanding items will be completed by year end.

Police Standards and Training Council

John Scippa, Director, and Mark O'Brien, Assistant Director, were in attendance to discuss the February 2019 Police Standards and Training Council audit.

John Scippa noted that observations six and nine were substantially resolved, 7 and 10 were a priority, and the status of observation 16 was unchanged, due to the newly hired Commissioner.

Department of Corrections, Adult Parole Board

William Hart, Commissioner for the Department of Corrections (DOC), and Jane Graham, Strategic Communications and Legislative Affairs Administrator, were in attendance to discuss the April 2019 Adult Parole Board audit.

Jane Graham stated there were 13 of the 26 findings that involve the DOC. Out of those 13 observations, 11 have been resolved. Of the two remaining observations, one especially involved the Parole Board, which they reported they do not need assistance with. For the other observation, they are working with the Parole Board to ensure they get them the information they need in a timely manner.

Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Mental Health Workforce Licensing

Deanna Jurius, Executive Director at the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, was in attendance to discuss the October 2023 Mental Health Workforce Licensing audit.

They are targeting the Spring of 2027 for a completion date.

Suspended, Tabled, and Potential Audit Topics

Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services

- Suspended in November 2021 due to ongoing litigation.

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Children, Youth, and Families and the Bureau of Children’s Behavioral Health - when placing children out of state

- Suspended in August 2024 due to ongoing litigation.

Department of Health and Human Services, Contract Management - potential audit topic

- The Committee heard from the Department on this topic in March 2026.

Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Developmental Services, possibly including reviewing: 1) the system redesign and its effects on billing and services, and/or 2) housing practices - potential audit topic

- The Committee heard from the Department on this topic in February 2026.

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Children, Youth, and Families – potential audit topic

- Representative Erica Layon was in attendance to discuss a potential audit topic and concerns regarding DCYF case workers. She asked if the State is supporting case workers appropriately, and what is needed to be more efficient in dealing with our most vulnerable population, which are children in potentially unsafe homes. The Committee agreed this is an area that needs to be looked at, but now, given limited staffing within the LBA, it would have to wait. It was suggested

that reaching out to the Governor's Office may be a way of getting an executive order in a short window of time.

Other Business

NHED Oversight of Education Freedom Accounts

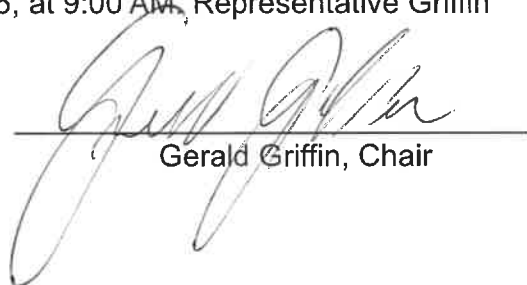
Senator Lang expressed interest in expanding the scope of the Education Freedom Accounts audit to add objectives: 1) the verification of residency and eligibility, and 2) records of educational attainment. He will work with Department of Education and the LBA to ensure the scope of work is clearly defined so a vote can be made at next month's meeting.

Local Education Agencies Special Education Audit

Steven Grady, Senior Performance Audit Manager, and Nicole Gaffen, Performance Audit Manager, were in attendance to seek clarification on what the Committee is looking for in terms of subject matter and timing. Steven Grady described potential limitations to their audit scope. Senator Lang expressed concern that all LEAs have different success rates, as well as different cost rates. He stated it was necessary to see what is working, what is not, and what changes need to be made at the local level to make any recommendations. Steven Grady noted that once the report writing is complete for the current special education audit, some auditors will be available to begin working on the local education agency audit topic.

Date of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2026, at 9:00 AM. Representative Griffin adjourned the meeting at 10:20 AM.



Gerald Griffin, Chair