SENATE BILL NO. 291

INTRODUCED BY H. HAMMOND, SHAW, AKLESTAD, MCCALLUM, SEVERSON, GAGE, PINSONEAULT, NEUMAN, COMPTON

IN THE SENATE

| January 31, 1985 | Introduced and referred to Committee on Local Government. |
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| February 21, 1985 | Committee recommend bill do pass as amended. Report adopted. |
| February 22, 1985 | Bill printed and placed on members' desks. |
| February 23, 1985 | Second reading, do pass. |
| February 25, 1985 | Considered correctly engrossed. |
| | Third reading, passed. Ayes, 48; Noes, 0. |
| | Transmitted to House. |
| IN TE | HE HOUSE |
| February 27, 1985 | Introduced and referred to Committee on Local Government. |
| April 19, 1985 | Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted. |
| April 20, 1985 | Second reading, concurred in. |
| April 22, 1985 | Third reading, concurred in. |
| | Returned to Senate. |
| IN TH | HE SENATE |
| April 22, 1985 | Received from House. |
| April 23, 1985 | Sent to enrolling. |
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Reported correctly enrolled.

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1 3 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO LIMIT STATE-MANDATED AUDITS OF MUNICIPALITIES TO FIRST-, SECOND-, AND THIRD-CLASS CITIES: AMENDING SECTION 2-7-503, MCA." 6 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA: 8 Section 1. Section 2-7-503, MCA, is amended to read: 9 "2-7-503. Audits of local governmental entities. (1) 10 The department shall audit the affairs of all: 11 (a) counties; 12 (b) incorporated cities and--towns of the first, 13 second, and third class; 14 (c) first- and second-class school districts and 15 third-class school districts that maintain a high school; 16 (d) school district extracurricular fund for pupil 17 functions; 18 (e) irrigation districts; 19 (f) conservancy districts; 20 (c) fire districts and volunteer fire departments in 21 unincorporated areas, towns, and villages supported by a 22 mill levy, except as provided in subsection (6); and

(h) fire department relief associations.

(2) Each audic shall be made every 2 years and shall

cover the immediately preceding 2 fiscal years of the governmental entity, unless annual audits are requested by the governmental entity.

- (3) Each audit shall be initiated not later than 24 4 months from the close of the fiscal year for which the audit is conducted.
- 7 (4) In addition to the audits required by this section, the department may at any time conduct a special 9 audit of the affairs of any governmental entity referred to in this part. 10
 - (5) The fee for the special audit shall be a charge based upon the costs incurred by the department in the conduct of such special audit. The audit fee herein provided shall be paid by the governmental entity to the state treasurer and deposited in the enterprise fund to the credit of the department.
- (6) Except as herein provided, the department may not 17 audit a fire district which has an annual budget of less than \$20,000 and in which fire protection is provided solely by a fire company composed only of volunteer firefighters 20 organized under Title 7, chapter 33. Such district shall 22 annually file with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the majority of the district is located an 23 itemized account of all receipts and expenditures for the 24 year, signed under oath by an officer of the fire company 25

designated by the fire district trustees. The board of 1 county commissioners may require an annual audit to be 2 3 conducted by the department if it considers such audit to be in the public interest." 4 5 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the department of commerce to make 6 rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is 7 8 extended to the provisions of this act.

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APPROVED BY COMM. ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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| 3 | SEVERSON, GAGE, PINSONEAULT, NEUMAN, COMPTON |
| 4 | |
| 5 | A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO LIMIT STATE-MANDATED |
| 6 | AUDITS OF MUNICIPALITIES TO FIRST-7-SECOND-7-AND-THIRD-CLASS |
| 7 | CITIES AND TOWNS HAVING A POPULATION OF MORE THAN 300; |
| 8 | AMENDING SECTION 2-7-503, MCA." |
| 9 | • |
| 10 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA: |
| 11 | Section 1. Section 2-7-503, MCA, is amended to read: |
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| 17 | MORE THAN 300 IN THE MOST RECENT CENSUS TAKEN UNDER THE |
| 18 | DIRECTION OF CONGRESS; |
| 19 | (c) first- and second-class school districts and |
| 20 | third-class school districts that maintain a high school; |
| 21 | (d) school district extracurricular fund for pupil |
| 22 | functions; |
| 23 | (e) irrigation districts; |
| 24 | <pre>(f) conservancy districts;</pre> |
| 25 | (g) fire districts and volunteer fire departments in |

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| fund | for pupil | |
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|--------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|------------|------------|----|---|
| mill levy, | except | as pro | ovided | in subs | section (6 | 5); and | | |

- 3 (h) fire department relief associations.
- (2) Each audit shall be made every 2 years and shall cover the immediately preceding 2 fiscal years of the 5 governmental entity, unless annual audits are requested by 6 the governmental entity.
- 8 (3) Each audit shall be initiated not later than 24 months from the close of the fiscal year for which the audit is conducted. 10
- 11 (4) In addition to the audits required by 12 section, the department may at any time conduct a special audit of the affairs of any governmental entity referred to 13 14 in this part.
 - (5) The fee for the special audit shall be a charge based upon the costs incurred by the department in the conduct of such special audit. The audit fee herein provided shall be paid by the governmental entity to the state treasurer and deposited in the enterprise fund to the credit of the department.
- (6) Except as herein provided, the department may not 21 audit a fire district which has an annual budget of less 22 23 than \$20,000 and in which fire protection is provided solely 24 by a fire company composed only of volunteer firefighters 25 organized under Title 7, chapter 33. Such district shall

annually file with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the majority of the district is located an itemized account of all receipts and expenditures for the year, signed under oath by an officer of the fire company designated by the fire district trustees. The board of county commissioners may require an annual audit to be conducted by the department if it considers such audit to be in the public interest."

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the department of commerce to make rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of this act.

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- unincorporated areas, towns, and villages supported by a
 mill levy, except as provided in subsection (6); and
- 3 (h) fire department relief associations.
- 4 (2) Each audit shall be made every 2 years and shall 5 cover the immediately preceding 2 fiscal years of the 6 governmental entity, unless annual audits are requested by the governmental entity.
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 9 months from the close of the fiscal year for which the audit
 10 is conducted.
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 12 section, the department may at any time conduct a special
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 than \$20,000 and in which fire protection is provided solely
 by a fire company composed only of volunteer firefighters

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organized under Title 7, chapter 33. Such district shall

(6) Except as herein provided, the department may not

- annually file with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the majority of the district is located an itemized account of all receipts and expenditures for the year, signed under oath by an officer of the fire company designated by the fire district trustees. The board of county commissioners may require an annual audit to be conducted by the department if it considers such audit to be in the public interest."
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 2. Extension of authority. Any 10 existing authority of the department of commerce to make 11 rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is 12 extended to the provisions of this act.

SB 0291/02

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| 25 | (a) fire districts and volunteer fire departments in |

49th Legislature

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