

He'll guard the chickens.



Yeah, and legislators will audit themselves.

Foxes shouldn't guard henhouses. And state spenders shouldn't audit their own spending.

But they will if we let them.

Lawmakers say they're working on legislation to allow performance audits. But their brand of audits would bypass our independently-elected state auditor. Their audits would be controlled by a legislative committee or a board of citizens . . . all appointed by state officials.

Oh, and did we mention legislators exempted themselves from audits?

Taxpayers deserve independent and comprehensive performance audits—audits that meet nationally-recognized standards.

Some legislators claim they're better at finding waste than our state auditor. Even if that were true, they certainly can't claim they've been good at addressing what's been uncovered. Here's a taste:

- The state's ferry system just failed its fifteenth audit in a row. They can't account for all the cash handed to them by ferry passengers. For fifteen years in a row?
- Millions of dollars in state benefits are sent to unqualified recipients—including dead people, illegal aliens and prisoners.
- Department of Social and Health Services staff receive up to 2,000 alerts each month notifying them of Social Security recipients who are likely ineligible. These alerts are ignored.

Don't sit back and let the fox cozy up to the chickens. Call your representatives. Tell them you want them to untie the hands of the state auditor, so he can conduct comprehensive, independent performance audits. Tell them you won't take "No" for an answer.

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