

3581

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 27, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. BRENNAN, DINOWITZ, ROSENTHAL, CLARK, COLTON --
Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. LAVINE, MARKEY -- read once and
referred to the Committee on Cities

AN ACT to amend the New York city charter, in relation to the audit
powers and duties of the New York city comptroller

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision c of section 93 of the New York city charter,
2 as added by a vote of the people of the city of New York at the general
3 election held in November of 1989, is amended to read as follows:
4 c. 1. The comptroller shall have power to audit all agencies, as
5 defined in subdivision two of section eleven hundred fifty, and all
6 agencies, the majority of whose members are appointed by city officials.
7 The comptroller shall be entitled to obtain access to agency records
8 required by law to be kept confidential, other than records which are
9 protected by the privileges for attorney-client communications, attorney
10 work products, or material prepared for litigation, upon a represen-
11 tation by the comptroller that necessary and appropriate steps will be
12 taken to protect the confidentiality of such records. The comptroller
13 shall establish a regular auditing cycle to ensure that one or more of
14 the programs or activities of each city agency, or one or more aspects
15 of each agency's operations, is audited at least once every four years.
16 The audits conducted by the comptroller shall comply with generally
17 accepted government auditing standards. In accordance with such stand-
18 ards, and before any draft or final audit or audit report, or portion
19 thereof, may be made public, the comptroller shall send a copy of the
20 draft audit or audit report to the head of the audited agency and
21 provide the agency, in writing, with a reasonable deadline for its
22 review and response. The comptroller shall include copies of any such
23 agency response in any draft or final audit or audit report, or portion
24 thereof, which is made public. The comptroller shall send copies of all

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 final audits and audit reports to the council, the mayor, and the audit
2 committee. IF THE FINAL REPORT MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORRECTIVE
3 ACTION, THE HEAD OF THE ENTITY AUDITED SHALL REPORT WITHIN NINETY DAYS
4 AFTER RECEIPT THEREOF TO THE COUNCIL, THE MAYOR AND THE AUDIT COMMITTEE
5 WHAT STEPS WERE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS, AND, WHERE
6 RECOMMENDATIONS WERE NOT IMPLEMENTED, THE REASON THEREFOR, INCLUDING
7 WHETHER ALTERNATE ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN THAT ESSENTIALLY MEET THE
8 AUDITOR'S INTENT OR CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS
9 ARE NO LONGER VALID. SUCH REPORTS BY THE AGENCY AUDITED SHALL CONTINUE
10 TO BE MADE AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION EVERY NINETY DAYS UNTIL ALL
11 RECOMMENDATIONS TO WHICH THE AUDITED AGENCY CONCURS ARE FULLY IMPL-
12 MENTED OR UNTIL CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE
13 NO LONGER APPLICABLE.

14 2. THE COMPTROLLER MAY CONDUCT FOLLOW-UP REVIEWS TO EXAMINE THE IMPL-
15 MENTATION STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED AUDITS OF
16 ANY AGENCY. WHEN CONDUCTING A FOLLOW-UP REVIEW, THE COMPTROLLER SHALL
17 DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS WERE FULLY IMPLEMENTED, PARTIALLY
18 IMPLEMENTED, NOT IMPLEMENTED AT ALL OR WERE NO LONGER APPLICABLE. THE
19 COMPTROLLER SHALL THEREAFTER SUBMIT THE FOLLOW-UP REVIEW TO THE AGENCY
20 AUDITED. IF THE FOLLOW-UP REVIEW INCLUDES UNIMPLEMENTED RECOMMENDATIONS
21 FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION AND THE AGENCY CONCURS WITH SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS,
22 THE HEAD OF THE AUDITED AGENCY SHALL, WITHIN NINETY DAYS AFTER RECEIVING
23 THE FOLLOW-UP REVIEW, REPORT TO THE COMPTROLLER, THE COUNCIL, THE MAYOR
24 AND THE AUDIT COMMITTEE WHAT STEPS WERE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMEN-
25 DATIONS AND WHERE THE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE NOT IMPLEMENTED, THE REASON
26 THEREFOR, INCLUDING WHETHER ALTERNATE ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN THAT
27 ESSENTIALLY MEET THE AUDITORS' INTENT OR CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED AND
28 THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE NO LONGER VALID. SUCH REPORTS BY THE AGENCY
29 AUDITED SHALL CONTINUE TO BE MADE AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION EVERY
30 NINETY DAYS UNTIL ALL RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FULLY IMPLEMENTED OR UNTIL
31 CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE NO LONGER APPLI-
32 CABLE.

33 S 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
34 have become a law.