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Rob Sand
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**STATE AUDITOR ROB SAND CALLS ON THE STATE TO TAKE THEIR
FINANCIAL REPORTING SERIOUSLY AND THANKS HIS STAFF FOR
UNPRECEDENTED WORK**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Des Moines, IA – Today, for the first time ever, the State Auditor’s Office finished releasing separate audit reports for the state’s Regents’ institutions. The reports are normally combined into Iowa’s annual Statewide Single Audit, but this year the Auditor’s Office had to issue separate reports because of delays in receiving the necessary information from the rest of state government.

“A timely and accurate Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is Government 101. Despite billions of dollars in surplus, the Governor and Republican legislative majorities responsible for your tax dollars have for years undervalued their own financial management team that prepares the material that we review for required audits,” said Sand. “The bottom line is we cannot audit what we have not been provided.”

The Iowa Department of Administrative Services is charged with collecting and compiling the financial information needed for Iowa’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The ACFR must be completed prior to the Auditor’s Office issuing the Statewide Single Audit, which covers the expenditure of federal funds and includes a review of compliance with federal laws and regulations.

The delays prompted the U.S. Department of Education to notify Iowa’s state universities in May that failing to submit compliance and financial statement audits in a timely manner might jeopardize some of the institutions’ certifications and result in additional monitoring for a minimum of five years.

“Our office went to work to come up with a plan to help Iowa’s state universities meet the U.S. Department of Education’s reporting requirements,” said Sand. “This was no small feat. I want to thank the hard-working professionals in my office for coming up with a creative solution to a problem not of their own making and putting in extra hours to make it happen, despite their already heavy workload. Our staff put Iowa’s taxpayers first even after some Republican lawmakers leveled false attacks on their work during the last legislative session.”