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**STATE AUDITOR ROB SAND ANNOUNCES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR  
IMPROVED OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR IOWA TAXPAYERS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Des Moines, IA** – State Auditor Rob Sand today released his legislative priorities for the upcoming session. The six pre-filed bills are designed to strengthen oversight of tax dollars, prevent fraud, and improve government efficiency for Iowans.

“It is my job to protect Iowa taxpayers from waste, fraud, and abuse of public funds,” said Sand. “I’m recommending six measures that will hold public officials accountable when they steal from Iowans, provide greater oversight of how tax dollars are spent, and streamline government at the state and local levels.”

The legislative proposals are as follows:

[Theft of Public Funds](#): Mandatory incarceration of a public employee or public official convicted of stealing \$10,000 or more of public funds.

[Public Funds, Suspected Fraud](#): Requires CPAs and local governments to cooperate with the Auditor’s Office when there is evidence of fraud and requires the entity responsible to pay the costs of the investigation.

[Audits and Examinations](#): Removes limits placed on the Auditor’s Office by the legislature in 2023, including access to information necessary to perform audits and judicial review.

[Audit Expenses](#): Incentivizes transparency and cooperation by requiring all state agencies to provide reimbursement for annual auditing services.

[Public Funds, Innovations and Efficiencies](#): Expands the Public Innovations and Efficiencies (PIE) program, launched by Auditor Sand in 2019, by requiring the State Auditor to publish an annual report listing cost-saving measures utilized by cities, counties, and school districts.

[Periodic Examination Fees](#): Update of fees for periodic examinations of cities not required to receive an annual audit.

“These proposals promote transparency and accountability and encourage all levels of government to work together to improve efficiency and save tax dollars,” said Sand. “I look forward to working with legislators interested in achieving the same goals.”