



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE THEMIS KLARIDES
ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

REPUBLICAN LEADER

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May 30, 2018

Senator Martin Looney
President Pro Tempore
Legislative Office Building, Room 3300

Representative Joseph Aresimowicz
Speaker of the House
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100

Senator Len Fasano
Republican President Pro Tempore
Legislative Office Building, Room 3400

Dear Caucus Leaders,

As you may be aware, Section 216 of Public Act 17-2 requires committees of cognizance and the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee to hold hearings regarding State Auditors' reports of state agencies. The hearings must be held within 180 days from the time the report is submitted to the legislature.

To date, there are three agency audit reports that are overdue for hearings and one other agency that will require hearings within the next month. Below is a list of the agencies and their deadlines for holding hearings:

Table with 3 columns: Agency, Audit Report Issued, Hearing Deadline. Rows include Veterans' Affairs, Department of Connecticut State University System Office, Criminal Justice, Division of (DCJ), and Connecticut Community College System.

With regard to the overdue hearing on Veterans' Affairs, State Auditors noted nine specific recommendations, including areas such as lacking overtime approvals, excessive vacation leave, inadequate documentation of donated funds, and other areas.

These are important areas that may impact benefits to veterans, as well as taxpayers in general. Therefore, I am respectfully requesting that the Chairpersons of the Veterans and GAE Committees schedule and convene a joint public hearing so that we may better understand department deficiencies, as well as measures that the department has taken or will take in the future to resolve deficiencies. We recommend that the appropriate agency personnel, as well as representatives from the State Auditors' Office be invited to testify relating to the audit report.

Furthermore, I would request that hearings be scheduled for DCJ and the Community College System as well, as there are significant findings and recommendations within those Auditor Reports.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Themis".

Themis Klarides
House Republican Leader