**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE BUDGET AND CONTROL BOARD SHALL ENGAGE A QUALIFIED INDEPENDENT AUDITING AND CONSULTING FIRM TO CONDUCT A FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND ANY OTHER RELATED ENTITIES IT CONSIDERS NECESSARY INCLUDING A REVIEW OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS IN ORDER TO PERFORM A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE STATE BUDGETARY PROCESS IN REGARD TO EDUCATION FUNDING AND THE MANNER IN WHICH EDUCATION SERVICES ARE DELIVERED FOR THE PURPOSE OF REDUCING WASTE AND DUPLICATION WITHIN THIS SYSTEM AND MAKING IT AS FISCALLY EFFECTIVE AS POSSIBLE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. (A) The State Budget and Control Board shall engage a qualified independent auditing and consulting firm to conduct a financial and management audit of the State Department of Education and any other related entities it considers necessary, including a review of school district records, in order to perform a comprehensive analysis of the state budgetary process in regard to education funding and the manner in which education services are delivered for the purpose of reducing waste and duplication within this system and making it as fiscally effective as possible.

(B) State and local agencies shall cooperate with this management audit to the extent needed by the firm conducting the audit as approved by the State Budget and Control Board.

(C) The funding for the cost of this audit must be appropriated by the General Assembly in the 2009‑2010 general appropriations act to the State Budget and Control Board.

(D) The results of the management audit together with any recommendations must be made to the General Assembly, the Governor, the Department of Education, and released to the general public on or before January 1, 2010.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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