

# New Jersey State Legislature Office of Legislative Services Office of the State Auditor

# State of New Jersey Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

Stephen M. Eells
State Auditor

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The Honorable Chris Christie Governor of New Jersey

The Honorable Stephen M. Sweeney President of the Senate

The Honorable Vincent Prieto Speaker of the General Assembly

Ms. Peri A. Horowitz
Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services

We have audited the financial statements of the State of New Jersey as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016 and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2017. In connection with that audit, we tested internal controls and compliance with laws and regulations. The results of our tests are contained herein in our Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

The audit was performed and this report is submitted pursuant to the State Auditor's responsibilities as set forth in Article VII, Section I, Paragraph 6 of the State Constitution and Title 52 of the New Jersey Statutes.

Stephen M. Eells State Auditor

March 17, 2017

# REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

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# REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

# Independent Auditor's Report

The Honorable Chris Christie Governor of New Jersey

The Honorable Stephen M. Sweeney President of the Senate

The Honorable Vincent Prieto Speaker of the General Assembly

Ms. Peri A. Horowitz
Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the State of New Jersey, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the State of New Jersey's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2017. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the discretely presented

component units, the pensions and other employee benefits trust funds, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, as described in our report on the State of New Jersey's basic financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors. The financial statements of the pensions and other employee benefits trust funds and three discretely presented component units, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, and the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, audited by other auditors, were not audited in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

# **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the State of New Jersey's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the State of New Jersey's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the State of New Jersey's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant weaknesses may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

## Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the State of New Jersey's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note a non-reportable condition that we communicated to management of the State of New Jersey in a separate letter dated March 15, 2017.

# Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Stephen M. Eells State Auditor

March 15, 2017



CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

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FORD M. SCUDDER State Treasurer

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DAVID RIDOLFINO Acting Director

March 17, 2017

Mr. Stephen M. Eells State Auditor Office of Legislative Services Office of the State Auditor PO Box 067 Trenton, NJ 08625-0067

Dear Mr. Eells:

I have reviewed the State of New Jersey Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

I was pleased to note that there were no material weaknesses indicated by your audit examination.

Sincerely,

David Ridolfino Acting Director

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