

SENATE BILL 474: The DAVE Act.

This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Regulatory Reform. If favorable, re- Date: April 2, 2025

refer to Appropriations/Base Budget

Introduced by: Sens. Berger, Moffitt, Jarvis

Prepared by: Jennifer McGinnis

Analysis of: First Edition Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 474 would establish the Division of Accountability, Value, and Efficiency within the Department of State Auditor.

CURRENT LAW: Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the General Statutes provides that the State Auditor shall perform or coordinate all audit functions for State government, and establishes the Auditor's duties and responsibilities in that regard.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill directs the State Auditor to establish the Division of Accountability, Value, and Efficiency (Division) within the Department of State Auditor.

No later than October 1, 2025, every State agency would be required to report to the Division on both of the following:

- An explanation of how the agency, including each division or office within that agency, utilizes public monies to execute its powers and duties under law.
- A description of all positions within that agency that have remained vacant for six months or more as of the effective date of the bill, with an explanation for the length of the vacancies.

The Division must then assess the continued need for each State agency and the vacant positions within each agency based on a review of the reports and examination of any of the following with respect to State agencies and their budgets:

- Amounts spent, including the entities receiving funds and the intended purpose of the amounts spent.
- The effectiveness of any amount spent in achieving the intended purpose of that spending.
- Duplicative spending.
- Any other factor demonstrating the fiscal soundness or effectiveness of the State agency or lack thereof.

No later than December 31, 2025, the Division must report the results of its assessment to the General Assembly, which must include, at minimum, recommendations on both of the following:

- Any State agencies, or any divisions or offices within a State agency, that should be dissolved based on the Division's assessment.
- Any State agency positions that should be eliminated based on the Division's assessment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when it becomes law.

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