

The APA has limited resources dedicated to existing local government responsibilities related to the annual Comparative Report, local fiscal distress monitoring process, and various oversight functions to support the

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financial audits and reporting for local governments. The APA local government team currently includes one full-time audit manager and an audit director who oversees both judicial and local government responsibilities. Given the complexities that would be involved in managing this process and the necessary expertise to oversee any resulting investigation, the APA anticipates the need for an additional full-time senior staff position on the local government team dedicated to fulfilling the new requirements from this legislation. The APA estimates this additional position will result in an additional \$125,000 in salary and benefits. This position would handle the primary functions of monitoring and managing this new state-level reporting process, including: monitoring and evaluating the intake of citizen and local government employee reported allegations of wrongdoing, fraud, or abuse related to local governments; investigating any good faith reports; overseeing investigations and supervising audit staff assigned to assist with conducting any investigation; and preparing a detailed report of the results of each completed investigation and other correspondence to notify applicable legislative committees, executive branch officials, and local government officials, as necessary. The number of investigations that the APA could conduct would be limited to the resources designated to this state-level reporting process and resulting investigations.

The Office of the State Inspector General indicates that the provisions of this bill are absorbable at this time. However, if whistleblower reports from local government employees were to significantly increase as a result of the notification requirements, it is possible that additional resources may be needed in the future.

Other: None.