

5645

Sponsor(s): Senators Patterson, McCaslin, Winsley, Haugen, Jacobsen, Goings, Fraser, Spanel, Kline, Long, Prentice, T. Sheldon, Rasmussen, Honeyford, Swecker, Rossi, Franklin, Stevens, Costa, Oke, Eide and McAuliffe; by request of State Auditor

Brief Description: Modifying the state employee whistleblower protection act.

SB 5645 - DIGEST

Requires that, in order to be investigated, an assertion of improper governmental action must be provided to the auditor within one year after the occurrence of the asserted improper governmental action.

Declares the auditor has the authority to determine whether to investigate any assertions received.

Provides that the auditor also has the authority to investigate assertions as part of an audit conducted under chapter 43.09 RCW. The auditor shall document the reasons for handling the matter as part of such an audit.

Declares that the identity of a whistleblower is confidential at all times unless the whistleblower consents to disclosure by written waiver or by acknowledging his or her identity in a claim against the state for retaliation.