



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Fifth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2393

adult protective services; audit; appropriation

Purpose

Requires the Auditor General (OAG) to engage an independent consultant with expertise in Adult Protective Services (APS) to examine current services and consider best practices to improve APS in Arizona.

Background

The OAG provides an independent financial, performance and compliance audit capability in support of legislative oversight and public accountability of funds administered by the state and certain local governments.

The APS program, within the Division of Aging and Adult Services at the Department of Economic Security, is responsible for receiving reports of abused, exploited or neglected vulnerable adults ([A.R.S. § 46-451](#)).

H.B. 2393 appropriates \$300,000 from the state General Fund (state GF) in FY 2023 to the OAG.

Provisions

1. Requires the OAG to engage an independent consultant with expertise in APS operations and investigations to examine the current APS.
2. Requires the independent consultant's examination of APS to consider best practices to improve the delivery of services in Arizona, including:
 - a) developing a strategic direction that ensures the safety of vulnerable adults and establishes protocols for services after an investigation;
 - b) creating accountability mechanisms;
 - c) strategies for community engagement that include engagement with families, vulnerable adults and service providers; and
 - d) the need for and frequency of regular, periodic performance evaluations and recommended areas for future reviews of APS by an independent outside evaluator.
3. Requires the OAG, in the decision to enter into a contract with an independent consultant, to consider the:
 - a) consultant's history of working with states or counties in evaluating operations for APS;
 - b) satisfaction of the states or counties with the work of the consultant;
 - c) knowledge of the consultant's staff or contractors in APS reform and operations;
 - d) consultant's knowledge of related laws governing APS; and
 - e) consultant's knowledge of evidence-based and promising best practices in APS.

FACT SHEET

H.B. 2393

Page 2

4. Requires the independent consultant, by July 1, 2023, to submit a report of its work, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chairperson of the House Ad Hoc Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults and provide a copy to the Secretary of State.
5. Appropriates \$300,000 from the state GF in FY 2023 to the OAG for the external review of APS.
6. Exempts the appropriation from lapsing.
7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

HHS	2/7/22	DP	9-0-0-0
APPROP	2/9/22	DP	12-1-0-0
3 rd Read	2/24/22		49-10-1

Prepared by Senate Research
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LMM/sr