

amendment, AM1928 which is on Journal page 1966, we worked with the fire districts' representatives and found a solution where we have a safety gap in there now that someone...if someone has a verifiable report of a third party indicating any irregularities or misconducts of officers, employees of fire protection districts, any misappropriation or misuse of public funds or property or an improper system or method of bookkeeping or conditions of accounts of a fire protection district, in absence of such a report, the auditor of public accounts may waive. So this should take care of anyone's concerns they had if there were any misconduct they would be untouchable for five years. This way they would be and people do keep up on these things, I'm sure, through the annual meetings and periodical meetings that the fire protection districts have so I would ask you for your support in the advancement of the amendment and the advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Wesely, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Senator Janssen, I think that it sounds good. Can you kind of run through how the scenario will play out after the bill passes now, a little more about...they will get...they'll have somebody checking their books. If somebody reports a problem, the auditor can step in. Can you kind of...

SENATOR JANSSEN: If anyone has a concern, without this amendment it wouldn't have made much difference. The auditor couldn't have touched it. This way they can. If someone within that district has a concern then they can...if it is a verifiable concern, as it says in the amendment, I mean it can't be a prank, you know, if somebody is sore at somebody on the board, why...

SENATOR WESELY: I see.

SENATOR JANSSEN: ...but the auditor can look at it; and if he deems it necessary, he can ask for an audit then.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. And it's for the books on the fire district. They get checked over by a CPA or something that way.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Everyone has to have an annual budget filed also with the auditor. I mean you don't get away from that.