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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

TO: Roger Katz, Senate Chair
Charles Kruger, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Government Oversight

FROM: Eric L. Brakey, Senate Chair EB
Drew Gattine, House Chair DG
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

DATE: December 15, 2015

RE: Support of study of Department of Health and Human Services audit functions

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We are writing to express our support for the task on OPEGA's work plan related to the Department of Health and Human Services audit functions.

Our Committee recently completed a study of the allocations of the Fund for a Healthy Maine. Throughout the study, we had several conversations about auditing related to FHM contracts, and several questions remain. Although vendors receiving FHM funding told us that they routinely file financial reports required by their contract, it is unclear whether the Department of Health and Human Services is regularly conducting audits as part of routine contract management. If audits are being regularly conducted, our Committee would like the results to be more readily available. Our Committee needs this information to make informed decisions about whether FHM funding should be adjusted.

We understand that the task on OPEGA's work plan concerns the effectiveness of the Department of Health and Human Services' audit functions in identifying and addressing fraud, waste and abuse in programs they administer. Although this task is not entirely related to our above-mentioned concerns, we would like to go on record as supporting the task on OPEGA's work plan and alert your Committee to our recent discussions related to FHM-related auditing.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you.