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**Chat history**

**You said:**

This is a document I've been working on to tout the benefits of our performance audit program. It is intended for legislators. Please review this and give me any feedback on how to make it read more clearly. TITLE: Performance audits evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of government programs with the goal of making them work better In 2005, the voters of Washington passed Initiative 900 which granted the State Auditor’s Office the authority and funding to conduct performance audits. The initiative reflected a clear demand for greater accountability in government and empowered our office to independently review the effectiveness and efficiency of state and local government programs. By addressing issues of public concern, these performance audits not only identify cost-saving opportunities but also contribute to making government work better for everyone. The initiative’s mandate goes beyond simple oversight. Voters recognized the importance of aggressively tackling the state’s most pressing issues, particularly in areas with significant public impact. Our performance audits prioritize large programs, especially those that affect vulnerable populations, those that involve public safety, and areas where problems are well-documented. By focusing on these high-impact areas, we help government agencies improve service delivery, making sure public resources are used wisely and effectively. Performance audits tell the story of government. A recent audit of the State Patrol highlighted its success in eliminating a long-standing backlog of untested sexual assault kits. Another audit looking at the state’s agricultural commodity commissions led to the Legislature passing a bill to establish a statewide branding campaign for Washington’s agricultural products. On the other hand, recent audits of civil asset forfeiture by law enforcement agencies and led testing for children enrolled in Medicaid highlighted shortcomings and the need for systemic changes in those areas. Future performance audits will examine topics like charter schools, special education, human trafficking, digital equity, and ensuring climate-resilient energy infrastructure. The primary goal of this work is to increase public trust in government. Ultimately, our performance audits serve as a tool for ensuring that government operates in the best interests of the people. By shedding light on inefficiencies and providing practical recommendations, we support a more transparent and accountable government that better serves the public.

**ChatGPT said:**

Your document is clear and well-structured, but I think some small adjustments can make it even more engaging and easier to follow. Here are a few suggestions:

**Performance Audits: Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness of Government Programs**

In 2005, Washington voters passed Initiative 900, granting the State Auditor’s Office authority and funding to conduct performance audits. This initiative was a response to the public’s call for greater accountability in government, empowering our office to independently assess the efficiency and effectiveness of state and local government programs. By addressing key public concerns, these audits not only identify cost-saving opportunities but also work to make government more effective for everyone.

The mandate of Initiative 900 goes beyond routine oversight. Voters understood the need for taking on the state’s most pressing challenges—particularly in programs with significant public impact. Our performance audits focus on large programs, especially those affecting vulnerable populations, public safety, and other areas where issues are well-documented. By concentrating on these high-impact areas, we help government agencies improve their services, ensuring that public resources are used efficiently and effectively.

Performance audits reveal how well government works. For example, a recent audit of the State Patrol highlighted its success in eliminating a longstanding backlog of untested sexual assault kits. Another audit of the state’s agricultural commodity commissions resulted in the Legislature passing a bill to establish a statewide branding campaign for Washington’s agricultural products. In contrast, audits of civil asset forfeiture practices and lead testing for children in Medicaid revealed significant gaps and highlighted the need for systemic changes. Upcoming performance audits will examine charter schools, special education, human trafficking, digital equity, and ensuring climate-resilient energy infrastructure.

At the heart of this work is the goal of increasing public trust in government. Our performance audits provide transparency, offer practical recommendations, and ensure that government functions in the best interest of its citizens. By shining a light on inefficiencies and promoting accountability, we support a government that better serves the public.

**Key Changes:**

1. **Title:** Simplified and more active ("Performance Audits: Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness of Government Programs").
2. **Intro Paragraph:** Slight rephrasing for clarity and flow, with tighter language.
3. **Mandate Section:** Emphasized the importance of the initiative by breaking it into two sentences for better impact.
4. **Storytelling Section:** Condensed and reworded some phrases to make it more direct.
5. **Trust in Government:** Rearranged to place more emphasis on practical outcomes and the broader mission of increasing public trust.

Would you like me to make further tweaks or expand on any section?

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ChatGPT can make mistakes. Check important info.