

5790-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators McCaslin, Fraser, Haugen, Patterson, Stevens, Horn, Oke and Wojahn; by request of State Auditor)

Brief Title: Modifying the state employee whistleblower protection act.

**SB 5790-S - DIGEST**

(AS OF SENATE 2ND READING 3/14/97)

Provides that, in order to be investigated, an allegation of improper governmental action must be provided to the auditor within one year after the occurrence of that alleged improper governmental action.

Grants the auditor discretion to review allegations received from whistleblowers to determine whether they contain sufficient merit and specificity to warrant investigation or whether the matter already has been sufficiently investigated by another authority. In addition, the auditor may determine whether the matter should be investigated as part of an audit under chapter 43.09 RCW.

Requires an agency to complete an investigation and report back to the auditor no later than sixty days after the allegations are received from the auditor.

Requires an agency to send its plan for corrective action to the auditor within thirty days of having received the report.