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AUDITOR GENERAL

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News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DePasquale Calls for More Transparency on Standardized Test Contracts

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today issued the following statement regarding concerns raised in the Senate Education Committee about state contracts for standardized tests such as Keystone Exams and others:

“I am very concerned when I hear questions raised about government agencies not being open and transparent about how taxpayer dollars are spent. I applaud Senators Eichelberger and Dinniman for raising issues about how standardized testing contracts have been handled. These contracts represent large expenditures that divert funding for classroom education.

“Far too often, we find problems with state contracts that do not deliver the products and services as promised and do not adequately protect the interests of taxpayers who are footing the bill.

“I am working with my team to find the best way to review this issue and identify ways to improve transparency and accountability when it comes to state contracts.”

Earlier this month, [DePasquale launched an audit of the contracting process](#) used to provide statewide radio service for the Pennsylvania State Police and other emergency responders.

An earlier [audit of the Department of Community and Economic Development job creation grants](#) found that the state’s contracts with businesses contained no claw-back provisions if they failed to hold up their end of job creation contract.

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