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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Indiana State Board of Accounts Receives National Award

Indianapolis, IN (6/9/2021) – Yesterday, representatives from State Board of Accounts ("SBOA") accepted the 2021 National State Auditor's Association ("NSAA") Excellence in Accountability Award for its Special Investigation and forensic audit of Indiana Virtual Schools and Indiana Virtual Pathways Academy (Report <u>B54446</u>). This Special Investigation uncovered over \$68.7M collectively received by the virtual schools as a result of misreporting student enrollment and attendance, and over \$85.76M collectively disbursed by both virtual schools to entities with little or no supporting documentation and where a related party was involved.

"Restoring Hoosiers' faith in government when civil servants seek to take advantage of system gaps or succumb to temptation remains a top priority for State Board of Accounts," said Paul Joyce, State Examiner and NSAA principal auditor representative for the State of Indiana. "It is an honor to accept this award on behalf of my Office recognizing SBOA as a leader in promoting government transparency, accountability, and innovation. This award is a testament to the skill, quality of work, and highest level of integrity of the professionals in my Office."

Award nominations were judged by State Auditors nationwide and were evaluated based on criteria, which included examination and investigation methodology, and the examination's impact to State government to prevent reoccurrence of significant examination results. State Examiner Paul Joyce

NSAA is part of National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers ("NASACT"), whose mission is dedicated to assisting state leaders for purposes of enhancing and promoting effective and efficient government financial management.

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