



AUDITOR OF STATE

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State Auditor Tim Berry Once Again Returns Taxpayer Funds to Indiana Treasury

Leading by example, the auditor returns over 18 percent of his budget as he prepares to close books on fiscal year 2011

INDIANAPOLIS—State Auditor Tim Berry has once again delivered on his promise to be a faithful steward of Hoosier taxpayers' money as he has cut his expenses 18 percent for this budget year.

In fact, the total expenses of the auditor of state's office are lower in fiscal year 2011 than in fiscal year 2000.

"No responsibility is more crucial than how we spend the taxpayers' money," said State Auditor Tim Berry. "My office must lead the way when it comes to fiscal restraint, and our budget numbers for this year reflect our determination to return as much money back to the treasury as possible."

With a budget of just above \$6 million, the auditor of state's office spent just over \$4.9 million for the year, less than year 2000 spending. Moving forward, the Auditor's budget has been adjusted downward consistent with meeting this new spending level.

Auditor Berry's office is not only spending less money than previous years, it is also expanding and modernizing services.

Using the latest technology and efficiencies has allowed the auditor of state's office to be at its lowest employee total in several years (from 67 in 2006 to only 56 today). Also, the auditor's office continues to expand and upgrade the transparency portal (www.in.gov/itp).

Due in large part to the transparency portal, Indiana is the only state to receive "A" ratings for transparency from two independent government watchdog groups.

“We never stop looking for ways to reduce costs, while at the same time expanding services,” continued Auditor Berry. “We owe it to every Hoosier and Hoosier family to make government more accessible and more cost effective.”

Tomorrow morning at 10:00, Auditor Berry will be holding his annual fiscal year-end news conference in his State House office.

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Elected in 2006 as Indiana’s 54th State Auditor, Tim Berry serves as the state’s chief financial officer. Prior to becoming state auditor, Berry served two terms as the Indiana State Treasurer. During his tenure in state government, Auditor Berry has consistently operated under budget and has returned millions of dollars back to Hoosier taxpayers.