SENATOR MICHAEL A. McLACHLAN TWENTY-FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING 300 CAPITOL AVENUE, SUITE 3400 HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591



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September 17, 2018

Auditor John C. Geragosian, Auditor Robert J. Kane, Auditors of Public Accounts State Capitol 210 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106-1559

Auditors Geragosian and Kane,

As a State Senator and Co-Chair of the legislature's Government Administration and Elections Committee, I ask that your office conduct an immediate audit of the University of Connecticut, particularly its handling of employee payment and oversight.

The Hartford Courant reported this week that the head of the Operations and Information Management Department within the UConn School of Business violated school travel and compensatory time approval policies for himself and his administrative assistant. The fraudulent activity of these two cost the university more than \$100,000 over two years.

This activity only was discovered because of a whistleblower complaint, not the university's own systems of checks and balances. Additionally, this lack of oversight is frighteningly similar to problems discovered earlier this year at the UConn Health Center.

UConn Medical School sent regular paychecks to a professor who had not reported to work for nearly eight months and, in fact, may have been dead that entire time.

The audit of UConn Health released by your office found a lack of proper recordkeeping, inappropriate payments for compensatory time, and potential conflicts of interest in the evaluation and approval of salary increases.

I am concerned that management and financial oversight problems are endemic to all of the facilities and organizations under the University of Connecticut Umbrella. How many other instances of inadequate recordkeeping and lax management practices have not been discovered?

I believe the Auditors of Public Accounts is the only office capable of shining a light on what is truly happening to taxpayer dollars and student tuition at the University of Connecticut.

Sincerely yours,

Michael A. McLachlan State Senator – 24th District

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