



OFFICE OF THE
STATE AUDITOR

News Release

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**Office of the State Auditor Releases Letter Concerning Oversight Issues with
Property Tax Equity Across the State**

Current Procedures are Insufficient to Ensure Uniform and Equal Treatment of Parcels

Salt Lake City, UTAH –

The Office of the State Auditor (Office) today releases a Letter concerning issues with property tax equity across the State. The Office's review of property tax equity issues specifically in Wasatch and Summit counties identified that the current procedures are insufficient to ensure uniform and equal tax treatment of properties as required by Article XIII of the Utah Constitution.

Property tax assessment is conducted by Utah's county assessors. However, statute assigns certain oversight responsibilities to the Utah State Tax Commission.

State Auditor John Dougall remarked, "When clear standards of assessment uniformity are not enforced, it contributes to public mistrust of the property tax valuation process. While it is important to help counties independently fulfill their statutory duties, this does not relieve the Tax Commission of its statutorily-required regulatory oversight responsibilities."

A copy of the Letter can be viewed on the Office's website at [auditor.utah.gov](https://reporting.auditor.utah.gov), or directly at <https://reporting.auditor.utah.gov/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=0151K000007P1IFQA0>.

About the Office of the State Auditor

The Office of the State Auditor provides Utah taxpayers and government officials with an independent assessment of financial operation, statutory compliance, and performance management for state and local government.

Specific activities of the Office include performing financial audits, conducting Federal funds compliance audits, providing local government oversight, conducting agency and program performance audits, performing fraud and compliance audits, and operating the State Auditor Hotline for citizens to report suspected financial issues or improprieties. These capabilities

strengthen Utah State Government and help taxpayers have confidence in the integrity of Utah's government agencies.

The Office also provides interactive graphical tools to help taxpayers and policymakers gain greater insight into governmental financial activities. These tools include the Transparent Utah Public Finance website (transparent.utah.gov) as well as the award-winning Project KIDS public education analysis dashboards (auditor.utah.gov/kids) and the Utah Health Cost Compare project (healthcost.utah.gov) to assist consumers in understanding the cost of health procedures.

The State Auditor is a Constitutional Officer of the State of Utah, elected directly by the state's citizens every four years. The role of the State Auditor is authorized in Article VII, Section 15 of the Utah Constitution. For more information, see auditor.utah.gov.

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