



## Washington State Senate

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**Senator Lynda Wilson**  
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The Honorable Pat McCarthy  
Washington State Auditor  
302 Sid Snyder Avenue SW  
Olympia, WA 98504-0021

Dear Auditor McCarthy,

In light of a troubling letter I received from a whistleblower regarding Washington's Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) Program, I ask the State Auditor's Office to review these claims, as well as the financial record keeping and performance management practices of the GET program.

In a letter sent on August 29, Michael Bennion, former GET Associate Director for Fiscal Planning, outlines several issues in how the GET program is utilizing citizen dollars. He describes problems of gross mismanagement, improper accounting, and a lack of financial transparency. With the upcoming rollout of the state's new 529 plan, it is absolutely essential that parents and students know their money is properly accounted for and is being used responsibly.

Mr. Bennion's memo is attached. I request that you review his claims and scrutinize the workings of the GET program to ensure administrative accountability.

Sincerely,

Senator Lynda Wilson  
17<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Chair, Higher Education Committee

Enclosure