

# LOUISIANA SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION FOR REMOTE SELLERS

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES

**Procedural Report**  
**Issued April 22, 2026**

**LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
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# Louisiana Legislative Auditor

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA

Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers



April 2026

Audit Control # 80250015

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## Introduction

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The primary purpose of our procedures at the Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers (Commission) was to evaluate certain controls the Commission uses to ensure accurate financial reporting, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and accountability over public funds. In addition, we determined whether management has taken action to correct the findings reported in the prior report.

## Results of Our Procedures

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We evaluated the Commission's operations and system of internal control through inquiry, observation, and review of its policies and procedures, including a review of the applicable laws and regulations. Based on the documentation of the Commission's controls and our understanding of related laws and regulations, and the results of our analytical procedures, we performed procedures relating to bank reconciliations over the Commission's operations, revenue collections and distributions, employee benefits, ethics and sexual harassment training, movable property, and record retention.

Based on the results of these procedures, we reported a finding related to Weaknesses over Employee Benefits, as described in the Current-report Finding section of the report.

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## Follow-up on Prior-report Findings

We reviewed the status of the prior-report findings in the Commission's procedural report dated July 3, 2024. We determined that management has resolved the prior-report findings related to Inadequate Controls over Bank Reconciliations and Noncompliance with State Laws and Regulations over Asset Management, Record Retention, and Training. The prior-report finding related to Weaknesses over Employee Benefits has not been resolved and is addressed again in this report.

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## Current-report Finding

### Weaknesses over Employee Benefits

The Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers (Commission) failed to establish adequate controls over employee benefits to ensure that remittances were made timely to benefit providers. Lack of adequate controls increases the risk of employee error or fraud and could ultimately impact employees' insurance coverages and investment earnings. In addition, the Commission could be subject to potential late penalties or adverse relationships with vendors.

We reviewed a sample of nine pay periods from July 2024 to June 2025 for all employee benefits. We noted the following:

- Two of five (40%) monthly payments to a non-state dental insurance provider were not paid timely, ranging from 10 to 18 days late.
- Two of six (33%) monthly payments to the administrator of a deferred compensation plan were not paid timely, ranging from 48 to 171 days late.
- One of five (20%) monthly payments to the Office of Group Benefits for flexible spending arrangement contributions were not paid timely (108 days after the end of the month withheld).

Adequate internal controls are intended to ensure that payments for employee benefits are remitted timely to providers. The non-state dental insurance premiums are required to be submitted by the invoice due dates. In addition, LAC Title 32, Part VII, Chapter 3, Section 317.3 requires deferred compensation contributions be remitted within 15 business days following the month compensation is deferred.

Management should create written policies and procedures to implement internal controls that ensure withholdings for employee benefits are remitted timely in accordance with applicable laws and regulations or established benefit providers' due dates. For benefit providers that do not set a due date, management should set policy to remit funds timely after withholding from employees. Management concurred with the finding and provided a corrective action plan (see Appendix A).

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## Trend Analysis

We compared the most current and prior-year financial activity using the Commission's Annual Fiscal Reports and/or system-generated reports and obtained explanations from the Commission's management for any significant variances.

Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is a public document, and it has been distributed to appropriate public officials.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Waguespack', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA  
Legislative Auditor

TL:EBT:BH:BQD:ch

RSC2025



## **APPENDIX A: MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE**

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SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION  
FOR REMOTE SELLERS

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April 13, 2026

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA  
Louisiana Legislative Auditor  
1600 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Mr. Waguespack,

The Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers is in receipt of the finding titled "Weaknesses over Employee Benefits."

The Commission concurs with this finding. The procedural audit conducted by the Legislative Auditor's Office covered the two fiscal years beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025.

It is critical to point out that the few instances of untimely payments did not impact employees' access to their benefits during this period and no late fees were incurred. It should also be noted that the policies and procedures that were put in place after the last audit did result in improvements over the administration of benefits. The Commission has subsequently implemented additional procedures to ensure that all payments are made timely. In addition, the Commission is presently in the process of expanding its office footprint, which will enable us to increase staffing and subsequently implement even greater controls.

If you have any additional questions or seek an update of the controls the Commission has established over employee benefits, please contact me at 225.219.7051 or [renee.roberie@la.gov](mailto:renee.roberie@la.gov).

Sincerely,

Renée Ellender Roberie  
Executive Director  
Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers



## APPENDIX B: SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

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We performed certain procedures at the Louisiana Sales and Use Tax Commission for Remote Sellers (Commission) for the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. Our objective was to evaluate certain controls the Commission uses to ensure accurate financial reporting, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and accountability over public funds. The scope of our procedures, which is summarized below, was significantly less than an audit conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We did not audit or review the Commission's Annual Fiscal Reports, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion on those reports. The Commission's accounts are an integral part of the state of Louisiana's financial statements, upon which the Louisiana Legislative Auditor expresses opinions.

- We evaluated the Commission's operations and system of internal controls through inquiry, observation, and review of its policies and procedures, including a review of the laws and regulations applicable to the Commission.
- Based on the documentation of the Commission's controls and our understanding of related laws and regulations, and results of our analytical procedures, we performed procedures relating to bank reconciliation over the Commission's operations, revenue collections and distributions, employee benefits, ethics and sexual harassment training, movable property, and record retention.
- We compared the most current and prior-year financial activity using the Commission's Annual Fiscal Reports and/or system-generated reports to identify trends and obtained explanations from the Commission's management for any significant variances that could potentially indicate areas of risk.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our work at the Commission, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. Accordingly, this report is not intended to be, and should not be, used for any other purpose.