

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5054

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As Passed Senate, January 17, 1996

**Title:** An act relating to advancements for travel expenses.

**Brief Description:** Repealing a travel expenses accounting procedure.

**Sponsors:** Senators Winsley and Haugen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Government Operations: 1/19/95, 1/24/95 [DP]; 1/10/96 [DP].  
Passed Senate, 2/13/95, 46-0; 1/17/96, 47-0.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Haugen, Chair; Sheldon, Vice Chair; Goings, Hale, Heavey, McCaslin and Winsley.

**Staff:** Eugene Green (786-7405)

**Background:** Legislation was enacted in 1969 that required local governments to establish a separate checking account when they wished to make travel advances. Because local governments can maintain the same level of control through other tracking mechanisms, a separate checking account unduly burdens staff with bookkeeping changes. The State Auditor already has the authority to make appropriate rules and regulations covering travel advances.

**Summary of Bill:** The requirement that local governments maintain a separate checking account for travel advances is repealed.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** A separate checking account is burdensome and can actually make an audit more difficult.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** Randy Finden, Office of State Auditor.