

43. Should any county or incorporated city or town or taxing district situated within this State fail or refuse to file with the [State Comptroller or with] Director of the State Fiscal Research Bureau, within the time herein prescribed the financial report or reports as provided in this sub-title, the Comptroller, *acting upon the advice of the Director of the State Fiscal Research Bureau*, shall be authorized to order the discontinuance of payment of all funds, grants or State aids [to] which said county, incorporated city or town or taxing district is entitled to receive under State law. This section shall have specific reference to all funds, grants, or State aid [to] which said county, incorporated city or town or taxing district is entitled to receive under applicable provisions of State law relating to the income tax, the tax on racing, the recordation tax, the tax on amusements and the license tax.

44. [After the adoption of the uniform system of financial reporting as required by Section 40 of this sub-title, each] *Each* county, incorporated city or town and taxing district situated within the State having a total population of 2,500 persons or more, as determined by the most recent Federal census, shall have its books, accounts, records and reports examined at least once during each calendar year by the persons and for the purposes specified in this section. Said examination may be made by any one of the following persons or agencies at the election of the county, incorporated city or town and taxing district whose books, accounts and records are subject to audit: the State Auditor, with the aid of the Deputy State Auditor and Assistant State Auditors; *an official auditor of any county or incorporated city*; a Certified Public Accountant or a registered public accountant; or the Fiscal or Auditing Committee of each such county, incorporated city or town and taxing district, provided that said *official auditor, registered public accountant or Fiscal or Auditing Committee* shall be approved by the State Auditor for the purposes specified in this section. On such examination, inquiry shall be made into the methods, accuracy and legality of the accounts, records, files and reports of each county, incorporated city or town and taxing district situated within this State. *Provided that the State Auditor shall have the power upon his own initiative to audit the books, records and reports of any county, incorporated city or town or taxing district, whatever its population may be; and provided further, that any county, incorporated city or town or taxing district having population of less than 2,500 may request the State Auditor to audit its books, records and*