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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

State Auditor Otto Releases Large Public Pension Plan Investment Report

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ST. PAUL (3/10/2015) – State Auditor Rebecca Otto today released the Large Public Pension Plan Investment Report, which reviews the investment performance of Minnesota’s large local public pension plans for the 2013 calendar year. The three public pension plans included in this report are the Bloomington Fire Department Relief Association, the Duluth Teachers’ Retirement Fund Association, and the St. Paul Teachers’ Retirement Fund Association.

This report informs lawmakers of the large plans’ investment performance, educates fiduciaries and members of the plans, and provides transparency to the public.

Highlights from the report include:

Current Trends

- During 2013, rates of return for the large plans were 19.2 percent (Bloomington Fire and St. Paul Teachers’) and 20.7 percent (Duluth Teachers’). All of the plans exceeded their respective benchmarks.
- Bloomington Fire was the only large plan that ended 2013 with a funding ratio above 100 percent, at 111.0 percent. St. Paul Teachers’ and Duluth Teachers’ had funding ratios of 60.4 percent and 54.0 percent, respectively.

Long-Term Trends

- The ten-year period from January 2004 through December 2013 was a period of volatility. Bloomington Fire was the only large plan able to exceed their actuarial assumed rate of return over this period. Although the other large plans were not able to meet their actuarial assumed rates of return over this period, most of the plans were able to keep up with or exceed market returns. The best-performing plan over the ten-year period was St. Paul Teachers’, which earned 7.5 percent.

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- The plans with the lowest rates of return for the ten-year period were Duluth Teachers' and Bloomington Fire, with returns of 6.1 percent and 6.2 percent, respectively. Both of these plans exceeded their benchmarks for 2013.

To view the complete report, which includes an Executive Summary, graphs and tables, go to:

<http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20150309.000>.

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The Office of the State Auditor is a constitutional office that is charged with overseeing more than \$20 billion spent annually by local governments in Minnesota. The Office of the State Auditor does this by performing audits of local government financial statements, and by reviewing documents, data, reports, and complaints reported to the Office. The financial information collected from local governments is analyzed and is the basis of statutory reports issued by the Office of the State Auditor.

Rebecca Otto is Minnesota's 18th State Auditor. A high-resolution official photo is available for download at http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/images/otto_hires.jpg. To learn more about State Auditor Otto, see <http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=bio>.