03/17/2010



## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House Comm: RCS

The Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability (Sobel) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (f) of subsection (2), subsection (3), paragraph (f) of subsection (6), and subsections (7) and (8) of section 20.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

20.055 Agency inspectors general.-

(2) The Office of Inspector General is hereby established in each state agency to provide a central point for coordination of and responsibility for activities that promote

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accountability, integrity, and efficiency in government. The agency head shall appoint the inspector general who must be confirmed by the Senate. It shall be the duty and responsibility of each inspector general, with respect to the state agency in which the office is established, to:

- (b) Assess the reliability and validity of the information provided by the state agency on performance outcomes measures and standards, and make recommendations for improvement, if necessary, prior to submission of those outcomes measures and standards to the Executive Office of the Governor pursuant to s. 216.013 s. 216.0166(1).
- (f) Keep the such agency head and the Auditor General informed concerning any fraud, abuses, or and deficiencies relating to programs and operations administered or financed by the state agency, recommend corrective action concerning such fraud, abuses, and deficiencies, and report on the progress made in implementing corrective action.
- (3) (a) The inspector general of each state agency shall be appointed by the Auditor General but shall be located at the respective state agency head. For agencies under the direction of the Governor, the appointment shall be made after notifying the Governor and the Chief Inspector General in writing, at least 7 days prior to an offer of employment, of the agency head's intention to hire the inspector general.
- (a) (b) Each inspector general shall report to and be under the general supervision of the Auditor General agency head and shall not be subject to supervision by any other employee of the state agency. The inspector general shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation.

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(b) (c) An inspector general may be removed from office by the agency head. For agencies under the direction of the Governor, the agency head shall notify the Governor and the Chief Inspector General, in writing, of the intention to terminate the inspector general for good cause shown at least 21 7 days before prior to the removal. For state agencies under the direction of the Governor and Cabinet, the agency head shall notify the Governor and Cabinet in writing of the intention to terminate the inspector general for good cause shown at least 21 7 days before prior to the removal. Good cause must be documented in the notification. The inspector general may not be removed if an objection is made by the Governor or Governor and Cabinet, as appropriate, within the 21 days before removal. Removal may be made if the objection is later rescinded.

(c) (d) An The agency head or agency staff may shall not prevent or prohibit the inspector general from initiating, carrying out, or completing any audit or investigation.

- (6) In carrying out the investigative duties and responsibilities specified in this section, each inspector general shall initiate, conduct, supervise, and coordinate investigations designed to detect, deter, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, mismanagement, misconduct, and other abuses in state government. For these purposes, each inspector general shall:
- (f) Submit in a timely fashion final reports on investigations conducted by the inspector general to the agency head and the Auditor General, except for whistle-blower's investigations, which shall be conducted and reported pursuant to s. 112.3189.

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- (7) Each inspector general shall, by not later than September 30 of each year, prepare an annual report summarizing the activities of the office during the immediately preceding state fiscal year. The final report shall be furnished to the agency head and the Auditor General. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to:
- (a) A description of activities relating to the development, assessment, and validation of performance measures.
- (b) A description of significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the agency disclosed by investigations, audits, reviews, or other activities during the reporting period.
- (c) A description of the recommendations for corrective action made by the inspector general during the reporting period with respect to significant problems, abuses, or deficiencies identified.
- (d) The identification of each significant recommendation described in previous annual reports on which corrective action has not been completed.
- (e) A summary of each audit and investigation completed during the reporting period.
- (8) The inspector general in each state agency shall provide to the agency head and the Auditor General, upon receipt, all written complaints concerning the duties and responsibilities in this section, or any allegation of misconduct related to the office of the inspector general or its employees, if received from subjects of audits or investigations who are individuals substantially affected or entities contracting with the state, as defined in this section. For



agencies solely under the direction of the Governor, the inspector general shall also provide the complaint to the Chief Inspector General.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

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106 ======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =========== 107 And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to agency inspectors general; amending s. 20.055, F.S.; requiring agency inspectors general to be confirmed by the Senate; updating a crossreference; requiring the agency inspector general to keep the Auditor General informed of any agency fraud, abuses, or deficiencies; revising the procedures for removing an inspector general; requiring that the agency inspector general provide to the Auditor General final reports on investigations, an annual report, and certain written complaints; providing an effective date.