

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to inspectors general; amending s.  
 3           14.32, F.S.; specifying that the Office of Chief  
 4           Inspector General is a separate budget entity and  
 5           housed within the Executive Office of the Governor for  
 6           administrative purposes only; requiring that the Chief  
 7           Inspector General be subject to Senate confirmation;  
 8           providing that the Chief Inspector General may only be  
 9           removed from office by the Governor for cause;  
 10          providing that the Chief Inspector General may not  
 11          serve for more than 10 consecutive years; amending s.  
 12          20.055, F.S.; specifying that the office of an agency  
 13          inspector general is a separate budget entity from the  
 14          state agency in which the office is established;  
 15          providing an effective date.

16  
 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18  
 19           Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 14.32, Florida  
 20 Statutes, is amended to read:

21           14.32 Office of Chief Inspector General.—

22           (1) ~~There is created in the Executive Office of the~~  
 23 ~~Governor~~ The Office of Chief Inspector General is created and  
 24 housed within the Executive Office of the Governor for  
 25 administrative purposes only. The office is a separate budget

26 | entity not subject to control, supervision, or direction by the  
27 | Executive Office of the Governor in any manner, including, but  
28 | not limited to, personnel, purchasing, transactions involving  
29 | real or personal property, and budgetary matters. The Chief  
30 | Inspector General is responsible for promoting accountability,  
31 | integrity, and efficiency in the agencies under the jurisdiction  
32 | of the Governor. The Chief Inspector General shall be appointed  
33 | ~~by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor~~ and is subject to  
34 | confirmation by the Senate. The Chief Inspector General may only  
35 | be removed from office by the Governor for cause, including  
36 | concerns regarding performance, malfeasance, misfeasance,  
37 | misconduct, or failure to carry out his or her duties under this  
38 | section. The Governor may not remove the Chief Inspector General  
39 | from office for reasons related to the subject of, the scope of,  
40 | or any conclusions or recommendations made from any audit or  
41 | investigation undertaken. However, upon a change in Governors or  
42 | reelection of the Governor, the Governor shall appoint, or may  
43 | reappoint, a Chief Inspector General before adjournment sine die  
44 | of the first regular session of the Legislature that convenes  
45 | after such change in Governors or reelection of the Governor.  
46 | A Chief Inspector General may not serve for more than 10  
47 | consecutive years.

48 | Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 20.055, Florida  
49 | Statutes, is amended to read:

50 | 20.055 Agency inspectors general.—

51 (2) An office of inspector general is established in each  
52 state agency to provide a central point for coordination of and  
53 responsibility for activities that promote accountability,  
54 integrity, and efficiency in government. An office of inspector  
55 general is a separate budget entity not subject to budgetary  
56 control by the state agency in which the office is established,  
57 including, but not limited to, personnel, purchasing,  
58 transactions involving real or personal property, and budgetary  
59 matters. It is the duty and responsibility of each inspector  
60 general, with respect to the state agency in which the office is  
61 established, to:

62 (a) Advise in the development of performance measures,  
63 standards, and procedures for the evaluation of state agency  
64 programs.

65 (b) Assess the reliability and validity of the information  
66 provided by the state agency on performance measures and  
67 standards, and make recommendations for improvement, if  
68 necessary, before submission of such information pursuant to s.  
69 216.1827.

70 (c) Review the actions taken by the state agency to  
71 improve program performance and meet program standards and make  
72 recommendations for improvement, if necessary.

73 (d) Provide direction for, supervise, and coordinate  
74 audits, investigations, and management reviews relating to the  
75 programs and operations of the state agency, except that when

76 | the inspector general does not possess the qualifications  
77 | specified in subsection (4), the director of auditing shall  
78 | conduct such audits.

79 |       (e) Conduct, supervise, or coordinate other activities  
80 | carried out or financed by that state agency for the purpose of  
81 | promoting economy and efficiency in the administration of, or  
82 | preventing and detecting fraud and abuse in, its programs and  
83 | operations.

84 |       (f) Keep the agency head or, for state agencies under the  
85 | jurisdiction of the Governor, the Chief Inspector General  
86 | informed concerning fraud, abuses, and deficiencies relating to  
87 | programs and operations administered or financed by the state  
88 | agency, recommend corrective action concerning fraud, abuses,  
89 | and deficiencies, and report on the progress made in  
90 | implementing corrective action.

91 |       (g) Ensure effective coordination and cooperation between  
92 | the Auditor General, federal auditors, and other governmental  
93 | bodies with a view toward avoiding duplication.

94 |       (h) Review, as appropriate, rules relating to the programs  
95 | and operations of such state agency and make recommendations  
96 | concerning their impact.

97 |       (i) Ensure that an appropriate balance is maintained  
98 | between audit, investigative, and other accountability  
99 | activities.

100 |       (j) Comply with the General Principles and Standards for

HB 1215

2018

101 | Offices of Inspector General as published and revised by the  
102 | Association of Inspectors General.

103 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.