

## INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 1978

Pub. L. 95-452, Oct. 12, 1978, 92 Stat. 1101, as amended by Pub. L. 96-88, title V, § 508(n), Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 694; Pub. L. 97-113, title VII, § 705(a)(1)-(3), Dec. 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1544; Pub. L. 97-252, title XI, § 1117(a)-(c), Sept. 8, 1982, 96 Stat. 750-752; Pub. L. 99-93, title I, § 150(a), Aug. 16, 1985, 99 Stat. 427; Pub. L. 99-399, title IV, § 412(a), Aug. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 867; Pub. L. 100-504, title I, §§ 102(a)-(d), (f), (g), 104(a), 105-107, 109, 110, Oct. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2515-2529; Pub. L. 100-527, § 13(h), Oct. 25, 1988, 102 Stat. 2643; Pub. L. 101-73, title V, § 501(b)(1), title VII, § 702(c), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 393, 415; Pub. L. 102-233, title III, § 315(a), Dec. 12, 1991, 105 Stat. 1772; Pub. L. 103-82, title II, § 202(g)(1), (2)(A), (3)(A), (4), (5), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 889, 890; Pub. L. 103-204, § 23(a), Dec. 17, 1993, 107 Stat. 2407; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, § 108(l), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1488; Pub. L. 103-325, title I, § 118(a), Sept. 23, 1994, 108 Stat. 2188; Pub. L. 104-88, title III, § 319, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 949; Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title XV, § 1502(f)(6), div. D, title XLIII, § 4322(b)(1), (3), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 510, 677; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, § 101(f) [title VI, § 662(b), title VIII, § 805(c)], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-314, 3009-379, 3009-393; Pub. L. 105-134, title IV, § 409(a)(1), Dec. 2, 1997, 111 Stat. 2586; Pub. L. 105-206, title I, § 1103(a)-(c)(1), (e)(1)-(3), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 705, 708, 709; Pub. L. 105-272, title VII, § 702(b), Oct. 20, 1998, 112 Stat. 2415; Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title III, § 306(h), as added Pub. L. 106-31, title I, § 105(a)(5), May 21, 1999, 113 Stat. 63; Pub. L. 105-277, div. G, title XIII, § 1314(b), title XIV, § 1422(b)(2), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-776, 2681-792; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title X, § 1067(17), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 775; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, § 1000(a)(7) [title II, § 205], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-422; Pub. L. 106-422, § 1(b), Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1872; Pub. L. 107-108, title III, § 309(b), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1400; Pub. L. 107-189, § 22(a), (c), (d), June 14, 2002, 116 Stat. 707, 708; Pub. L. 107-252, title VIII, § 812(a), Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1727; Pub. L. 107-273, div. A, title III, § 308, Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1784; Pub. L. 107-296, title VIII, §§ 811(e), 812(a), title XI, § 1112(a), title XVII, § 1701, Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2221, 2222, 2275, 2313; Pub. L. 107-306, title VIII, § 825, Nov. 27, 2002, 116 Stat. 2429; Pub. L. 108-7, div. L, § 104(b), (c)(2), Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 529, 531; Pub. L. 108-271, § 8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814; Pub. L. 108-458, title I, § 1078, title VIII, § 8304, Dec. 17, 2004, 118 Stat. 3695, 3868; Pub. L. 109-177, title VI, § 605(e)(3), (4), Mar. 9, 2006, 120 Stat. 255; Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 612(c), Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1410; Pub. L. 109-435, title VI, §§ 603(b), 605(a), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3240, 3242; Pub. L. 110-234, title XIV, § 14217(c), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1482; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title XIV, § 14217(c), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2244; Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title I, § 1105(c), July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2668; Pub. L. 110-409, §§ 2-4(a)(1), 5, 6(a), (b), 7(a), (d)(1), 8, 9, 11-13(a), 14, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4302, 4305, 4313-4316; Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title IX, §§ 907, 931(b)(2), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4569, 4575; Pub. L. 111-13, title IV, § 4101, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1597; Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title X, § 1042, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2455; Pub. L. 111-203, title IX, §§ 989B-989D, title X, § 1081, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 1945, 1946, 2080; Pub. L. 111-259, title IV, §§ 405(d), 431, Oct. 7, 2010, 124 Stat. 2719, 2731; Pub. L. 112-199, title I, § 117(a), (b), Nov. 27, 2012, 126 Stat. 1474, 1475; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title VIII, § 848, title XVI, § 1614, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1851, 2066

### § 1. Short title

This Act be cited as the “Inspector General Act of 1978”.

(Pub. L. 95-452, § 1, Oct. 12, 1978, 92 Stat. 1101.)

#### SHORT TITLE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 110-409, § 1, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4302, provided that: “This Act [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the ‘Inspector General Reform Act of 2008’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-440, § 1, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3286, provided that: “This Act [amending provisions set out as a note under section 8G of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix] may be cited as the ‘Iraq Reconstruction Accountability Act of 2006’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-272, title VII, § 701(a), Oct. 20, 1998, 112 Stat. 2413, provided that: “This title [enacting section 8H of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix, amending

section 8I of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix, and section 403q of Title 50, War and National Defense, and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 8H of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix] may be cited as the ‘Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act of 1998’.”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-504, title I, § 101, Oct. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2515, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 8B-8F of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix, amending sections 2, 4-6, 8, 9, and 11 of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix, sections 5315 and 5316 of this title, sections 405 and 1105 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and section 410 of Title 39, Postal Service, repealing sections 3521-3527 and 7138 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and section 231v of Title 45, Railroads, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1, 5, 8D, 8E, and 9 of Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix] may be cited as the ‘Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988’.”

## PAYMENT AUTHORITY SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS

Pub. L. 100-504, title I, §112, Oct. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2530, provided that: "Any authority to make payments under this title [see Short Title of 1988 Amendment note above] shall be effective only to such extent as provided in appropriations Acts."

## § 2. Purpose and establishment of Offices of Inspector General; departments and agencies involved

In order to create independent and objective units—

(1) to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the establishments listed in section 12(2);

(2) to provide leadership and coordination and recommend policies for activities designed (A) to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of, and (B) to prevent and detect fraud and abuse in, such programs and operations; and

(3) to provide a means for keeping the head of the establishment and the Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of such programs and operations and the necessity for and progress of corrective action;

there is established—

(A) in each of such establishments an office of Inspector General, subject to subparagraph (B); and

(B) in the establishment of the Department of the Treasury—

(i) an Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury; and

(ii) an Office of Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

(Pub. L. 95-452, §2, Oct. 12, 1978, 92 Stat. 1101; Pub. L. 96-88, title V, §508(n)(1), Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 694; Pub. L. 97-113, title VII, §705(a)(1), Dec. 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1544; Pub. L. 97-252, title XI, §1117(a)(1), Sept. 8, 1982, 96 Stat. 750; Pub. L. 99-93, title I, §150(a)(1), Aug. 16, 1985, 99 Stat. 427; Pub. L. 99-399, title IV, §412(a)(1), Aug. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 867; Pub. L. 100-504, title I, §102(a), (b), Oct. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2515; Pub. L. 100-527, §13(h)(1), Oct. 25, 1988, 102 Stat. 2643; Pub. L. 105-206, title I, §1103(a), July 22, 1998, 112 Stat. 705; Pub. L. 110-409, §7(d)(1)(A), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4313.)

## CODIFICATION

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-527 amended section as it existed prior to amendment by Pub. L. 100-504, see Effective Date of 1988 Amendments note below.

## AMENDMENTS

2008—Par. (1). Pub. L. 110-409 substituted "section 12(2)" for "section 11(2)".

1998—Pub. L. 105-206, in concluding provisions, substituted "there is established—" and subpars. (A) and (B) for "there is hereby established in each of such establishments an office of Inspector General."

1988—Pub. L. 100-504 substituted "there" for "thereby" in concluding provisions and amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1), as amended by Pub. L. 100-527, read as follows: "to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to programs and operations of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing

and Urban Development, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Labor, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Agency for International Development, the Community Services Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the General Services Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Small Business Administration, the United States Information Agency, and the Department of State;".

Par. (1). Pub. L. 100-527 inserted "the Department of Veterans Affairs," and struck out "the Veterans' Administration," after "United States Information Agency,". See Codification note above.

1986—Par. (1). Pub. L. 99-399 inserted "the United States Information Agency,".

1985—Par. (1). Pub. L. 99-93 inserted reference to the Department of State.

1982—Par. (1). Pub. L. 97-252, §1117(a)(1), inserted "the Department of Defense,".

1981—Par. (1). Pub. L. 97-113 inserted "the Agency for International Development,".

1979—Par. (1). Pub. L. 96-88 inserted "the Department of Education,".

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENTS

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-527 effective Mar. 15, 1989, see section 18(a) of Pub. L. 100-527, set out as a Department of Veterans Affairs Act note under section 301 of Title 38, Veterans' Benefits.

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-504 effective 180 days after Oct. 18, 1988, see section 113 of Pub. L. 100-504, set out as a note under section 5 of Pub. L. 95-452 in this Appendix.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1979 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-88 effective May 4, 1980, with specified exceptions, see section 601 of Pub. L. 96-88, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3401 of Title 20, Education.

## § 3. Appointment of Inspector General; supervision; removal; political activities; appointment of Assistant Inspector General for Auditing and Assistant Inspector General for Investigations

(a) There shall be at the head of each Office an Inspector General who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, without regard to political affiliation and solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability in accounting, auditing, financial analysis, law, management analysis, public administration, or investigations. Each Inspector General shall report to and be under the general supervision of the head of the establishment involved or, to the extent such authority is delegated, the officer next in rank below such head, but shall not report to, or be subject to supervision by, any other officer of such establishment. Neither the head of the establishment nor the officer next in rank below such head shall prevent or prohibit the Inspector General from initiating, carrying out, or completing any audit or investigation, or from issuing any subpoena during the course of any audit or investigation.

(b) An Inspector General may be removed from office by the President. If an Inspector General is removed from office or is transferred to another position or location within an establishment, the President shall communicate in writing the reasons for any such removal or transfer to both Houses of Congress, not later than 30 days before the removal or transfer. Nothing in