

“(iii) any other provision of law.

“(n) FUNDING.—(1) Of the amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2004 for the Operating Expenses of the Coalition Provisional Authority in title II of this Act [117 Stat. 1226], \$75,000,000 shall be available to carry out this section.

“(2) The amount available under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.

“(o) TERMINATION.—(1) The Office of the Inspector General shall terminate 180 days after the date on which amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the reconstruction of Iraq that are unexpended are less than \$250,000,000.

“(2) The Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction shall, prior to the termination of the Office of the Special Inspector General under paragraph (1), prepare a final forensic audit report on all amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the reconstruction of Iraq.”

#### TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY; FINDINGS

Pub. L. 106-422, §1(a), Nov. 1, 2000, 114 Stat. 1872, provided that: “Congress finds that—

“(1) Inspectors General serve an important function in preventing and eliminating fraud, waste, and abuse in the Federal Government; and

“(2) independence is vital for an Inspector General to function effectively.”

#### AMTRAK NOT FEDERAL ENTITY; FEDERAL SUBSIDY

Section 409(b), (c) of Pub. L. 105-134 provided that:

“(b) AMTRAK NOT FEDERAL ENTITY.—Amtrak shall not be considered a Federal entity for purposes of the Inspector General Act of 1978 [Pub. L. 95-452, set out in this Appendix]. The preceding sentence shall apply for any fiscal year for which Amtrak receives no Federal subsidy.

“(c) FEDERAL SUBSIDY.—

“(1) ASSESSMENT.—In any fiscal year for which Amtrak requests Federal assistance, the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall review Amtrak’s operations and conduct an assessment similar to the assessment required by section 202(a) [Pub. L. 105-134, 49 U.S.C. 24101 note]. The Inspector General shall report the results of the review and assessment to—

“(A) the President of Amtrak;

“(B) the Secretary of Transportation;

“(C) the United States Senate Committee on Appropriations;

“(D) the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation;

“(E) the United States House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations; and

“(F) the United States House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

“(2) REPORT.—The report shall be submitted, to the extent practicable, before any such committee reports legislation authorizing or appropriating funds for Amtrak for capital acquisition, development, or operating expenses.

“(3) SPECIAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection takes effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 2, 1997].”

#### REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION

Pub. L. 100-504, title I, §111, Oct. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2529, directed the head of each designated Federal entity (as defined under subsec. (a)(2) of this section) to submit, on Oct. 31, 1989, to Director of Office of Management and Budget and to each House of Congress a report on status of implementation by that entity of the requirements of section 8E of the Inspector General Act of 1978.

### § 8H. Additional provisions with respect to Inspectors General of the Intelligence Community

(a)(1)(A) An employee of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intel-

ligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, or the National Security Agency, or of a contractor of any of those Agencies, who intends to report to Congress a complaint or information with respect to an urgent concern may report the complaint or information to the Inspector General of the Department of Defense (or designee).

(B) An employee of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or of a contractor of the Bureau, who intends to report to Congress a complaint or information with respect to an urgent concern may report the complaint or information to the Inspector General of the Department of Justice (or designee).

(C) Any other employee of, or contractor to, an executive agency, or element or unit thereof, determined by the President under section 2302(a)(2)(C)(ii) of title 5, United States Code, to have as its principal function the conduct of foreign intelligence or counterintelligence activities, who intends to report to Congress a complaint or information with respect to an urgent concern may report the complaint or information to the appropriate Inspector General (or designee) under this Act or section 17 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 [50 U.S.C. 3517].

(2) If a designee of an Inspector General under this section receives a complaint or information of an employee with respect to an urgent concern, that designee shall report the complaint or information to the Inspector General within 7 calendar days of receipt.

(3) The Inspectors General of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the National Security Agency shall be designees of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense for purposes of this section.

(b) Not later than the end of the 14-calendar day period beginning on the date of receipt of an employee complaint or information under subsection (a), the Inspector General shall determine whether the complaint or information appears credible. Upon making such a determination, the Inspector General shall transmit to the head of the establishment notice of that determination, together with the complaint or information.

(c) Upon receipt of a transmittal from the Inspector General under subsection (b), the head of the establishment shall, within 7 calendar days of such receipt, forward such transmittal to the intelligence committees, together with any comments the head of the establishment considers appropriate.

(d)(1) If the Inspector General does not find credible under subsection (b) a complaint or information submitted to the Inspector General under subsection (a), or does not transmit the complaint or information to the head of the establishment in accurate form under subsection (b), the employee (subject to paragraph (2)) may submit the complaint or information to Congress by contacting either or both of the intelligence committees directly.

(2) The employee may contact the intelligence committees directly as described in paragraph (1) only if the employee—

(A) before making such a contact, furnishes to the head of the establishment, through the

Inspector General, a statement of the employee's complaint or information and notice of the employee's intent to contact the intelligence committees directly; and

(B) obtains and follows from the head of the establishment, through the Inspector General, direction on how to contact the intelligence committees in accordance with appropriate security practices.

(3) A member or employee of one of the intelligence committees who receives a complaint or information under paragraph (1) does so in that member or employee's official capacity as a member or employee of that committee.

(e) The Inspector General shall notify an employee who reports a complaint or information under this section of each action taken under this section with respect to the complaint or information. Such notice shall be provided not later than 3 days after any such action is taken.

(f) An action taken by the head of an establishment or an Inspector General under subsections (a) through (e) shall not be subject to judicial review.

(g)(1) The Inspector General of the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the National Security Agency shall each submit to the congressional intelligence committees each year a report that sets forth the following:

(A) The personnel and funds requested by such Inspector General for the fiscal year beginning in such year for the activities of the office of such Inspector General in such fiscal year.

(B) The plan of such Inspector General for such activities, including the programs and activities scheduled for review by the office of such Inspector General during such fiscal year.

(C) An assessment of the current ability of such Inspector General to hire and retain qualified personnel for the office of such Inspector General.

(D) Any matters that such Inspector General considers appropriate regarding the independence and effectiveness of the office of such Inspector General.

(2) The submittal date for a report under paragraph (1) each year shall be the date provided in section 507 of the National Security Act of 1947 [50 U.S.C. 3106].

(3) In this subsection, the term "congressional intelligence committees" shall have the meaning given that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401a) [50 U.S.C. 3003].

(h) In this section:

(1) The term "urgent concern" means any of the following:

(A) A serious or flagrant problem, abuse, violation of law or Executive order, or deficiency relating to the funding, administration, or operations of an intelligence activity involving classified information, but does not include differences of opinions concerning public policy matters.

(B) A false statement to Congress, or a willful withholding from Congress, on an

issue of material fact relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity.

(C) An action, including a personnel action described in section 2302(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code, constituting reprisal or threat of reprisal prohibited under section 7(c) in response to an employee's reporting an urgent concern in accordance with this section.

(2) The term "intelligence committees" means the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

(Pub. L. 95-452, §8H, as added Pub. L. 105-272, title VII, §702(b)(1), Oct. 20, 1998, 112 Stat. 2415; amended Pub. L. 107-108, title III, §309(b), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1400; Pub. L. 107-306, title VIII, §825, Nov. 27, 2002, 116 Stat. 2429; Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title IX, §931(b)(2), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4575; Pub. L. 111-259, title IV, §431(b), Oct. 7, 2010, 124 Stat. 2731.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8H of the Inspector General Act of 1978 was renumbered section 8J.

#### AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 111-259 added par. (3).

2008—Subsecs. (a)(1)(A), (g)(1). Pub. L. 110-417 substituted "National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency" for "National Imagery and Mapping Agency".

2002—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 107-306, §825(1), substituted "subsections (a) through (e)" for "this section".

Subsecs. (g), (h). Pub. L. 107-306, §825(2), (3), added subsec. (g) and redesignated former subsec. (g) as (h).

2001—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-108, §309(b)(1), substituted "Upon making such a determination, the Inspector General shall transmit to the head of the establishment notice of that determination, together with the complaint or information." for "If the Inspector General determines that the complaint or information appears credible, the Inspector General shall, before the end of such period, transmit the complaint or information to the head of the establishment."

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 107-108, §309(b)(2), substituted "does not find credible under subsection (b) a complaint or information submitted to the Inspector General under subsection (a), or does not transmit the complaint or information to the head of the establishment in accurate form under subsection (b)," for "does not transmit, or does not transmit in an accurate form, the complaint or information described in subsection (b)."

#### CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 105-272, title VII, §701(b), Oct. 20, 1998, 112 Stat. 2413, provided that: "The Congress finds that—

"(1) national security is a shared responsibility, requiring joint efforts and mutual respect by Congress and the President;

"(2) the principles of comity between the branches of Government apply to the handling of national security information;

"(3) Congress, as a co-equal branch of Government, is empowered by the Constitution to serve as a check on the executive branch; in that capacity, it has a 'need to know' of allegations of wrongdoing within the executive branch, including allegations of wrongdoing in the Intelligence Community;

"(4) no basis in law exists for requiring prior authorization of disclosures to the intelligence committees of Congress by employees of the executive branch of classified information about wrongdoing within the Intelligence Community;

“(5) the risk of reprisal perceived by employees and contractors of the Intelligence Community for reporting serious or flagrant problems to Congress may have impaired the flow of information needed by the intelligence committees to carry out oversight responsibilities; and

“(6) to encourage such reporting, an additional procedure should be established that provides a means for such employees and contractors to report to Congress while safeguarding the classified information involved in such reporting.”

### § 8I. Special provisions concerning the Department of Homeland Security

(a)(1) Notwithstanding the last two sentences of section 3(a), the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall be under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to audits or investigations, or the issuance of subpoenas, that require access to sensitive information concerning—

(A) intelligence, counterintelligence, or counterterrorism matters;

(B) ongoing criminal investigations or proceedings;

(C) undercover operations;

(D) the identity of confidential sources, including protected witnesses;

(E) other matters the disclosure of which would, in the Secretary's judgment, constitute a serious threat to the protection of any person or property authorized protection by section 3056 of title 18, United States Code, section 3056A of title 18 of such Code, or any provision of the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976 (18 U.S.C. 3056 note); or

(F) other matters the disclosure of which would constitute a serious threat to national security.

(2) With respect to the information described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security may prohibit the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security from carrying out or completing any audit or investigation, or from issuing any subpoena, after such Inspector General has decided to initiate, carry out, or complete such audit or investigation or to issue such subpoena, if the Secretary determines that such prohibition is necessary to prevent the disclosure of any information described in paragraph (1), to preserve the national security, or to prevent a significant impairment to the interests of the United States.

(3) If the Secretary of Homeland Security exercises any power under paragraph (1) or (2), the Secretary shall notify the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security in writing within seven days stating the reasons for such exercise. Within 30 days after receipt of any such notice, the Inspector General shall transmit to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and appropriate committees and subcommittees of Congress the following:

(A) A copy of such notice.

(B) A written response to such notice that includes a statement regarding whether the Inspector General agrees or disagrees with such exercise, and the reasons for any disagreement.

(b) The exercise of authority by the Secretary described in paragraph (2) should not be construed as limiting the right of Congress or any committee of Congress to access any information it seeks.

(c) Subject to the conditions established in subsections (a) and (b) above, in carrying out the duties and responsibilities specified in this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security may initiate, conduct, and supervise such audits and investigations in the Department of Homeland Security as the Inspector General considers appropriate.

(d) Any report required to be transmitted by the Secretary of Homeland Security to the appropriate committees or subcommittees of Congress under section 5(d) shall be transmitted, within the seven-day period specified under such section, to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and appropriate committees and subcommittees of Congress.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in carrying out the duties and responsibilities specified in this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall have oversight responsibility for the internal investigations performed by the Office of Internal Affairs of the United States Customs Service, the Office of Inspections of the United States Secret Service, the Bureau of Border Security, and the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services. The head of each such office or bureau shall promptly report to the Inspector General the significant activities being carried out by such office or bureau.

(f)(1) The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall designate a senior official within the Office of Inspector General, who shall be a career member of the civil service at the equivalent to the GS-15 level or a career member of the Senior Executive Service, to perform the functions described in paragraph (2).

(2) The senior official designated under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) coordinate the activities of the Office of Inspector General with respect to investigations of abuses of civil rights or civil liberties;

(B) receive and review complaints and information from any source alleging abuses of civil rights and civil liberties by employees or officials of the Department and employees or officials of independent contractors or grantees of the Department;

(C) initiate investigations of alleged abuses of civil rights or civil liberties by employees or officials of the Department and employees or officials of independent contractors or grantees of the Department;

(D) ensure that personnel within the Office of Inspector General receive sufficient training to conduct effective civil rights and civil liberties investigations;

(E) consult with the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties regarding—

(i) alleged abuses of civil rights or civil liberties; and

(ii) any policy recommendations regarding civil rights and civil liberties that may be founded upon an investigation by the Office of Inspector General;