

percent of the population as a whole is Hispanic, and the CDC estimates that Hispanic-Americans accounted for 17 percent of new HIV infections in 2006;

Whereas Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders account for 1 percent of new AIDS cases, and Native Americans and Alaska Natives account for up to 1 percent of new AIDS cases;

Whereas approximately 70 percent of new AIDS cases are racial and ethnic minorities;

Whereas, in 2008, the CDC released new estimates of HIV infection, which indicate that approximately 56,300 new HIV infections occurred in the United States in 2006;

Whereas these new estimates are approximately 40 percent higher than the CDC's previous estimates of 40,000 new infections per year;

Whereas the CDC's data confirms that the most severe impact of HIV/AIDS continues to be among gay and bisexual men of all races, and Black men and women;

Whereas the purpose of the Minority AIDS Initiative is to enable community-based organizations and health care providers in minority communities to improve their capacity to deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate HIV/AIDS care and services;

Whereas the establishment of the Minority AIDS Initiative was announced on October 28, 1998, during a "roll-out" event sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus, which featured the participation of President Bill Clinton, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, Representative Maxine Waters, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and representatives of HIV/AIDS service and advocacy organizations;

Whereas it was announced at this roll-out that the Minority AIDS Initiative would receive an initial appropriation of \$156,000,000 in fiscal year 1999;

Whereas concerned Members of Congress, including members of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and the Congressional Hispanic Conference, continue to support the Minority AIDS Initiative;

Whereas the Minority AIDS Initiative continues to provide funding to community-based organizations, research institutions, minority-serving colleges and universities, health care organizations, State and local health departments, correctional institutions, and other providers of health information and services to help such entities address the HIV/AIDS epidemic within the minority populations they serve;

Whereas Congress codified the Minority AIDS Initiative within the most recent reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act;

Whereas the Minority AIDS Initiative fills gaps in HIV/AIDS outreach, awareness, prevention, treatment, surveillance, and infrastructure across communities of color; and

Whereas, October 28, 2008, is the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Minority AIDS Initiative: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and commemorates the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Minority AIDS Initiative;

(2) commends the efforts of community-based organizations and health care providers in minority communities to deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) care and services within the minority populations they serve;

(3) encourages racial and ethnic minorities to educate themselves about the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and reduce the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS; and

(4) supports the continued funding of the Minority AIDS Initiative and other Federal programs to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and to provide effective, compassionate treatment and care to individuals affected by HIV/AIDS.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5642. Mr. DORGAN (for Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. HATCH)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1343, to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act, and for other purposes.

SA 5643. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3268, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act, to prevent excessive price speculation with respect to energy commodities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5644. Mr. SALAZAR (for Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 928, to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to enhance the independence of the Inspectors General, to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5642. Mr. DORGAN (for Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. HATCH)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1343, to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Health Care Safety Net Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS PROGRAM OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

(a) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE HEALTH CENTERS PROGRAM OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.—Section 330(r) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(r)) is amended by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of carrying out this section, in addition to the amounts authorized to be appropriated under subsection (d), there are authorized to be appropriated—

"(A) \$2,065,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

"(B) \$2,313,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

"(C) \$2,602,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

"(D) \$2,940,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

"(E) \$3,337,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.".

(b) STUDIES RELATING TO COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) the term "community health center" means a health center receiving assistance under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b); and

(B) the term "medically underserved population" has the meaning given that term in such section 330.

(2) SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER STUDY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall issue a study of the economic costs and benefits of school-based health centers and

the impact on the health of students of these centers.

(B) CONTENT.—In conducting the study under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General of the United States shall analyze—

(i) the impact that Federal funding could have on the operation of school-based health centers;

(ii) any cost savings to other Federal programs derived from providing health services in school-based health centers;

(iii) the effect on the Federal Budget and the health of students of providing Federal funds to school-based health centers and clinics, including the result of providing disease prevention and nutrition information;

(iv) the impact of access to health care from school-based health centers in rural or underserved areas; and

(v) other sources of Federal funding for school-based health centers.

(3) HEALTH CARE QUALITY STUDY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary"), acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, and in collaboration with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes agency efforts to expand and accelerate quality improvement activities in community health centers.

(B) CONTENT.—The report under subparagraph (A) shall focus on—

(i) Federal efforts, as of the date of enactment of this Act, regarding health care quality in community health centers, including quality data collection, analysis, and reporting requirements;

(ii) identification of effective models for quality improvement in community health centers, which may include models that—

(I) incorporate care coordination, disease management, and other services demonstrated to improve care;

(II) are designed to address multiple, co-occurring diseases and conditions;

(III) improve access to providers through non-traditional means, such as the use of remote monitoring equipment;

(IV) target various medically underserved populations, including uninsured patient populations;

(V) increase access to specialty care, including referrals and diagnostic testing; and

(VI) enhance the use of electronic health records to improve quality;

(iii) efforts to determine how effective quality improvement models may be adapted for implementation by community health centers that vary by size, budget, staffing, services offered, populations served, and other characteristics determined appropriate by the Secretary;

(iv) types of technical assistance and resources provided to community health centers that may facilitate the implementation of quality improvement interventions;

(v) proposed or adopted methodologies for community health center evaluations of quality improvement interventions, including any development of new measures that are tailored to safety-net, community-based providers;

(vi) successful strategies for sustaining quality improvement interventions in the long-term; and

(vii) partnerships with other Federal agencies and private organizations or networks as appropriate, to enhance health care quality in community health centers.

(C) **DISSEMINATION.**—The Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration shall establish a formal mechanism or mechanisms for the ongoing dissemination of agency initiatives, best practices, and other information that may assist health care quality improvement efforts in community health centers.

(4) **GAO STUDY ON INTEGRATED HEALTH SYSTEMS MODEL FOR THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AND UNINSURED POPULATIONS.**—

(A) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on integrated health system models of at least 15 sites for the delivery of health care services to medically underserved and uninsured populations. The study shall include an examination of—

(i) health care delivery models sponsored by public or private non-profit entities that—

(I) integrate primary, specialty, and acute care; and

(II) serve medically underserved and uninsured populations; and

(ii) such models in rural and urban areas.

(B) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subparagraph (A). The report shall include—

(i) an evaluation of the models, as described in subparagraph (A), in—

(I) expanding access to primary, preventive, and specialty services for medically underserved and uninsured populations; and

(II) improving care coordination and health outcomes;

(III) increasing efficiency in the delivery of quality health care; and

(IV) conducting some combination of the following services—

(aa) outreach activities;

(bb) case management and patient navigation services;

(cc) chronic care management;

(dd) transportation to health care facilities;

(ee) development of provider networks and other innovative models to engage local physicians and other providers to serve the medically underserved within a community;

(ff) recruitment, training, and compensation of necessary personnel;

(gg) acquisition of technology for the purpose of coordinating care;

(hh) improvements to provider communication, including implementation of shared information systems or shared clinical systems;

(ii) determination of eligibility for Federal, State, and local programs that provide, or financially support the provision of, medical, social, housing, educational, or other related services;

(jj) development of prevention and disease management tools and processes;

(kk) translation services;

(ll) development and implementation of evaluation measures and processes to assess patient outcomes;

(mm) integration of primary care and mental health services; and

(nn) carrying out other activities that may be appropriate to a community and that would increase access by the uninsured to health care, such as access initiatives for which private entities provide non-Federal contributions to supplement the Federal funds provided through the grants for the initiatives; and

(ii) an assessment of—

(I) challenges, including barriers to Federal programs, encountered by such entities in providing care to medically underserved and uninsured populations; and

(II) advantages and disadvantages of such models compared to other models of care delivery for medically underserved and uninsured populations, including—

(aa) quality measurement and quality outcomes;

(bb) administrative efficiencies; and

(cc) geographic distribution of federally-supported clinics compared to geographic distribution of integrated health systems.

(5) **GAO STUDY ON VOLUNTEER ENHANCEMENT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study, and submit a report to Congress, concerning the implications of extending Federal Tort Claims Act (chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code) coverage to health care professionals who volunteer to furnish care to patients of health centers.

(B) **CONTENT.**—In conducting the study under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General of the United States shall analyze—

(i) the potential financial implications for the Federal Government of such an extension, including any increased funding needed for current health center Federal Tort Claims Act coverage;

(ii) an estimate of the increase in the number of health care professionals at health centers, and what types of such professionals would most likely volunteer given the extension of Federal Tort Claims Act coverage;

(iii) the increase in services provided by health centers as a result of such an increase in health care professionals, and in particular the effect of such action on the ability of health centers to secure specialty and diagnostic services needed by their uninsured and other patients;

(iv) the volume of patient workload at health centers and how volunteer health care professionals may help address the patient volume;

(v) the most appropriate manner of extending such coverage to volunteer health care professionals at health centers, including any potential difference from the mechanism currently used for health care professional volunteers at free clinics;

(vi) State laws that have been shown to encourage physicians and other health care providers to provide charity care as an agent of the State; and

(vii) other policies, including legislative or regulatory changes, that have the potential to increase the number of volunteer health care staff at health centers and the financial implications of such policies, including the cost savings associated with the ability to provide more services in health centers rather than more expensive sites of care.

(c) **RECOGNITION OF HIGH POVERTY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 330(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) **RECOGNITION OF HIGH POVERTY.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary may recognize the unique needs of high poverty areas.

“(B) **HIGH POVERTY AREA DEFINED.**—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘high poverty area’ means a catchment area which is established in a manner that is consistent with the factors in subsection (k)(3)(J), and the poverty rate of which is greater than the national average poverty rate as determined by the Bureau of the Census.”

(2) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to grants made on or after January 1, 2009.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.

(a) **FUNDING.**—

(1) **REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM.**—Section 338(a) of

the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254k(a)) is amended by striking “2002 through 2006” and inserting “2008 through 2012”.

(2) **SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAMS.**—Subsection (a) of section 338H of such Act (42 U.S.C. 254q) is amended by striking “appropriated \$146,250,000” and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: “appropriated—

“(1) for fiscal year 2008, \$131,500,000;

“(2) for fiscal year 2009, \$143,335,000;

“(3) for fiscal year 2010, \$156,235,150;

“(4) for fiscal year 2011, \$170,296,310; and

“(5) for fiscal year 2012, \$185,622,980.”

(b) **ELIMINATION OF 6-YEAR DEMONSTRATION REQUIREMENT.**—Section 332(a)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e(a)(1)) is amended by striking “Not earlier than 6 years” and all that follows through “purposes of this section.”

(c) **ASSIGNMENT TO SHORTAGE AREA.**—Section 333(a)(1)(D)(ii) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254f(a)(1)(D)(ii)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (IV), by striking “and”;

(2) in subclause (V), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(VI) the entity demonstrates willingness to support or facilitate mentorship, professional development, and training opportunities for Corps members.”

(d) **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING.**—Subsection (d) of section 336 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254h-1) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall assist Corps members in establishing and maintaining professional relationships and development opportunities, including by—

“(A) establishing appropriate professional relationships between the Corps member involved and the health professions community of the geographic area with respect to which the member is assigned;

“(B) establishing professional development, training, and mentorship linkages between the Corps member involved and the larger health professions community, including through distance learning, direct mentorship, and development and implementation of training modules designed to meet the educational needs of offsite Corps members;

“(C) establishing professional networks among Corps members; or

“(D) engaging in other professional development, mentorship, and training activities for Corps members, at the discretion of the Secretary.

“(2) **ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS.**—In providing such assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall focus on establishing relationships with hospitals, with academic medical centers and health professions schools, with area health education centers under section 751, with health education and training centers under section 752, and with border health education and training centers under such section 752. Such assistance shall include assistance in obtaining faculty appointments at health professions schools.

“(3) **SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.**—Such efforts under this subsection shall supplement, not supplant, non-government efforts by professional health provider societies to establish and maintain professional relationships and development opportunities.”

(e) **ELIGIBILITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND TERRITORIES FOR THE STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 338I(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254q-1(h)) is amended by striking “several States” and

inserting “50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands”.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section 3381(i)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 254q-1(i)(1)) is amended by striking “2002” and all that follows through the period and inserting “2008, and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.”.

SEC. 4. REAUTHORIZATION OF RURAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS.

Section 330A(j) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c(j)) is amended by striking “\$40,000,000” and all that follows through the period and inserting “\$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.”.

SEC. 5. REAUTHORIZATION OF PRIMARY DENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE PROGRAMS.

Section 340G(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256g(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking “\$50,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”; and

(2) by striking “2002” and inserting “2008”.

SEC. 6. EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATION OF PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subtitle B of title XXVIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-10 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 2815. EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATION OF PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS.

“The Secretary, acting through Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, and in coordination with the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, shall

“(1) provide guidance and technical assistance to health centers funded under section 330 and to State and local health departments and emergency managers to integrate health centers into State and local emergency response plans and to better meet the primary care needs of populations served by health centers during public health emergencies; and

“(2) encourage employees at health centers funded under section 330 to participate in emergency medical response programs including the National Disaster Medical System authorized in section 2812, the Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps authorized in section 2813, and the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Health Professions Volunteers authorized in section 3191.”.

(b) **SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**—It is the Sense of Congress that the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to the extent permitted by law, utilize the existing authority provided under the Federal Tort Claims Act for health centers funded under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b) in order to establish expedited procedures under which such health centers and their health care professionals that have been deemed eligible for Federal Tort Claims Act coverage are able to respond promptly in a coordinated manner and on a temporary basis to public health emergencies outside their traditional service area and sites, and across State lines, as necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 7. REVISION OF THE TIMEFRAME FOR THE RECOGNITION OF CERTAIN DESIGNATIONS IN CERTIFYING RURAL HEALTH CLINICS UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The second sentence of section 1861(aa)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)(2)) is amended by striking “3-year period” and inserting “4-year period” in the matter in clause (i) preceding subclause (I).

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 5643. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3268, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act, to prevent excessive price speculation with respect to energy commodities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **DEPARTMENT.**—The term “Department” means the Department of the Interior.

(2) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the Service.

(3) **ROYALTY-IN-KIND PROGRAM.**—The term “royalty-in-kind program” means the program established under—

(A) section 342 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15902);

(B) section 36 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 192);

(C) section 27 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1353); or

(D) any other similar provision of law.

(4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) **SERVICE.**—The term “Service” means the Minerals Management Service.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall—

(1) establish and maintain within the Department the Minerals Management Service; and

(2) assign to the Service such functions as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) **DIRECTOR.**—The Service shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(d) **AUDITS.**—

(1) **ROYALTY AUDITS.**—The Director shall ensure that the Service implements a comprehensive program of financial audits of royalty payments and adjustments, including physical on-site audits, on the basis of risk and statistical samples.

(2) **STANDARDS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall promulgate regulations that—

(A) require that all employees of the Service that conduct audits and compliance reviews meet professional auditor qualifications that are consistent with the latest revision of the Government Auditing Standards published by the Government Accountability Office; and

(B) ensure that all audits conducted by the Service are performed in accordance with the standards.

(3) **INSPECTOR GENERAL.**—The Inspector General of the Department shall—

(A) conduct, annually and as necessary, audits of activities of the Service, including leasing and royalty activities; and

(B) report the results of the audits of activities of the Service (including leasing and royalty activities) and the certifications required under subsection (e) to—

(i) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(ii) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(iii) the Secretary.

(e) **ROYALTIES-IN-KIND PROGRAM.**—

(1) **INITIAL CERTIFICATION.**—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a certification that all of the recommendations made by the Office of the Inspector General of the Department as the result of investigations that culminated in a memorandum dated September 9, 2008, and a report dated May 2008 (C-EV-MMS-001-2008), with respect to the royalty-in-kind program have been implemented.

(2) **ANNUAL CERTIFICATIONS.**—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and each year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a certification that the royalty-in-kind program is in full compliance with Federal law (including regulations) governing procurement and ethics.

(3) **SUSPENSION.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the Secretary fails to make a certification required under paragraph (1) or (2), the authority of the Secretary to carry out each royalty-in-kind program is suspended during the period—

(A) beginning on the day after the deadline for the certification under that paragraph; and

(B) ending on the date the Secretary makes the certification required under that paragraph.

SA 5644. Mr. SALAZAR (for Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 928, to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to enhance the independence of the Inspectors General, to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Inspector General Reform Act of 2008”.

SEC. 2. APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

Section 8G(c) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end “Each Inspector General shall be appointed 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.”.

SEC. 3. REMOVAL OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENTS.**—Section 3(b) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking the second sentence and inserting “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 this subsection shall prohibit a personnel action otherwise authorized by law, other than transfer or removal.”.

(b) **DESIGNATED FEDERAL ENTITIES.**—Section 8G(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking “shall promptly communicate in writing the reasons for any such removal or transfer to both Houses of the Congress.” and inserting “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 this subsection shall prohibit a personnel action otherwise authorized by law, other than transfer or removal.”.

SEC. 4. PAY OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

(a) **INSPECTORS GENERAL AT LEVEL III OF EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) The annual rate of basic pay for an Inspector General (as defined under section 12(3)) shall be the rate payable for level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code, plus 3 percent.”.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to each of the following positions:

(A) Inspector General, Department of Education.

(B) Inspector General, Department of Energy.

(C) Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

(D) Inspector General, Department of Agriculture.

(E) Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(F) Inspector General, Department of Labor.

(G) Inspector General, Department of Transportation.

(H) Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

(I) Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

(J) Inspector General, Department of Defense.

(K) Inspector General, Department of State.

(L) Inspector General, Department of Commerce.

(M) Inspector General, Department of the Interior.

(N) Inspector General, Department of Justice.

(O) Inspector General, Department of the Treasury.

(P) Inspector General, Agency for International Development.

(Q) Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

(R) Inspector General, Export-Import Bank.

(S) Inspector General, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(T) Inspector General, General Services Administration.

(U) Inspector General, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(V) Inspector General, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(W) Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management.

(X) Inspector General, Railroad Retirement Board.

(Y) Inspector General, Small Business Administration.

(Z) Inspector General, Tennessee Valley Authority.

(AA) Inspector General, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(BB) Inspector General, Resolution Trust Corporation.

(CC) Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.

(DD) Inspector General, Social Security Administration.

(EE) Inspector General, United States Postal Service.

(3) APPLICABILITY TO OTHER INSPECTORS GENERAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the annual rate of basic pay of the Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, and the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction shall be that of an Inspector General as defined under section 12(3) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by section 7(a) of this Act).

(B) PROHIBITION OF CASH BONUS OR AWARDS.—Section 3(f) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by section 5 of this Act) shall apply to the Inspectors General described under subparagraph (A).

(4) ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 194(b) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.

12651e(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(b) INSPECTORS GENERAL OF DESIGNATED FEDERAL ENTITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Inspector General of each designated Federal entity (as those terms are defined under section 8G of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.)) shall, for pay and all other purposes, be classified at a grade, level, or rank designation, as the case may be, at or above those of a majority of the senior level executives of that designated Federal entity (such as a General Counsel, Chief Information Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Human Capital Officer, or Chief Acquisition Officer). The pay of an Inspector General of a designated Federal entity (as those terms are defined under section 8G of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.)) shall be not less than the average total compensation (including bonuses) of the senior level executives of that designated Federal entity calculated on an annual basis.

(2) LIMITATION ON ADJUSTMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an Inspector General of a designated Federal entity whose pay is adjusted under paragraph (1), the total increase in pay in any fiscal year resulting from that adjustment may not exceed 25 percent of the average total compensation (including bonuses) of the Inspector General of that entity for the preceding 3 fiscal years.

(B) SUNSET OF LIMITATION.—The limitation under subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any adjustment made in fiscal year 2013 or each fiscal year thereafter.

(c) SAVINGS PROVISION FOR NEWLY APPOINTED INSPECTORS GENERAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of section 3392 of title 5, United States Code, other than the terms “performance awards” and “awarding of ranks” in subsection (c)(1) of such section, shall apply to career appointees of the Senior Executive Service who are appointed to the position of Inspector General.

(2) NONREDUCTION IN PAY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, career Federal employees serving on an appointment made pursuant to statutory authority found other than in section 3392 of title 5, United States Code, shall not suffer a reduction in pay, not including any bonus or performance award, as a result of being appointed to the position of Inspector General.

(d) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section shall have the effect of reducing the rate of pay of any individual serving on the date of enactment of this section as an Inspector General of—

(1) an establishment as defined under section 12(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by section 7(a) of this Act);

(2) a designated Federal entity as defined under section 8G(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.);

(3) a legislative agency for which the position of Inspector General is established by statute; or

(4) any other entity of the Government for which the position of Inspector General is established by statute.

SEC. 5. PROHIBITION OF CASH BONUS OR AWARDS.

Section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by section 4 of this Act) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) An Inspector General (as defined under section 8G(a)(6) or 12(3)) may not receive any cash award or cash bonus, including any cash award under chapter 45 of title 5, United States Code.”.

SEC. 6. SEPARATE COUNSEL TO SUPPORT INSPECTORS GENERAL.

(a) COUNSELS TO INSPECTORS GENERAL OF ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by sections 4 and 5 of this Act) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) Each Inspector General shall, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations governing the civil service, obtain legal advice from a counsel either reporting directly to the Inspector General or another Inspector General.”.

(b) COUNSELS TO INSPECTORS GENERAL OF DESIGNATED FEDERAL ENTITIES.—Section 8G(g) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) Each Inspector General shall—

“(A) in accordance with applicable laws and regulations governing appointments within the designated Federal entity, appoint a Counsel to the Inspector General who shall report to the Inspector General;

“(B) obtain the services of a counsel appointed by and directly reporting to another Inspector General on a reimbursable basis; or

“(C) obtain the services of appropriate staff of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency on a reimbursable basis.”.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendments made by this section shall be construed to alter the duties and responsibilities of the counsel for any establishment or designated Federal entity, except for the availability of counsel as provided under sections 3(g) and 8G(g) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by this section). The Counsel to the Inspector General shall perform such functions as the Inspector General may prescribe.

SEC. 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNCIL OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL ON INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by redesignating sections 11 and 12 as sections 12 and 13, respectively, and by inserting after section 10 the following:

“SEC. 11. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL ON INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND MISSION.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established as an independent entity within the executive branch the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (in this section referred to as the ‘Council’).

“(2) MISSION.—The mission of the Council shall be to—

“(A) address integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues that transcend individual Government agencies; and

“(B) increase the professionalism and effectiveness of personnel by developing policies, standards, and approaches to aid in the establishment of a well-trained and highly skilled workforce in the offices of the Inspectors General.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall consist of the following members:

“(A) All Inspectors General whose offices are established under—

“(i) section 2; or

“(ii) section 8G.

“(B) The Inspectors General of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the Central Intelligence Agency.

“(C) The Controller of the Office of Federal Financial Management.

“(D) A senior level official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation designated by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“(E) The Director of the Office of Government Ethics.

“(F) The Special Counsel of the Office of Special Counsel.

“(G) The Deputy Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

“(H) The Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget.

“(I) The Inspectors General of the Library of Congress, Capitol Police, Government Printing Office, Government Accountability Office, and the Architect of the Capitol.

“(2) CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON.—

“(A) EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON.—The Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget shall be the Executive Chairperson of the Council.

“(B) CHAIRPERSON.—The Council shall elect 1 of the Inspectors General referred to in paragraph (1)(A) or (B) to act as Chairperson of the Council. The term of office of the Chairperson shall be 2 years.

“(3) FUNCTIONS OF CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON.—

“(A) EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON.—The Executive Chairperson shall—

“(i) preside over meetings of the Council;

“(ii) provide to the heads of agencies and entities represented on the Council summary reports of the activities of the Council; and

“(iii) provide to the Council such information relating to the agencies and entities represented on the Council as assists the Council in performing its functions.

“(B) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson shall—

“(i) convene meetings of the Council—

“(I) at least 6 times each year;

“(II) monthly to the extent possible; and

“(III) more frequently at the discretion of the Chairperson;

“(ii) carry out the functions and duties of the Council under subsection (c);

“(iii) appoint a Vice Chairperson to assist in carrying out the functions of the Council and act in the absence of the Chairperson, from a category of Inspectors General described in subparagraph (A)(i), (A)(ii), or (B) of paragraph (1), other than the category from which the Chairperson was elected;

“(iv) make such payments from funds otherwise available to the Council as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Council;

“(v) select, appoint, and employ personnel as needed to carry out the functions of the Council subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates;

“(vi) to the extent and in such amounts as may be provided in advance by appropriations Acts, made available from the revolving fund established under subsection (c)(3)(B), or as otherwise provided by law, enter into contracts and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons to carry out the functions and duties of the Council;

“(vii) establish, in consultation with the members of the Council, such committees as determined by the Chairperson to be necessary and appropriate for the efficient conduct of Council functions; and

“(viii) prepare and transmit a report annually on behalf of the Council to the President on the activities of the Council.

“(c) FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF COUNCIL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall—

“(A) continually identify, review, and discuss areas of weakness and vulnerability in Federal programs and operations with respect to fraud, waste, and abuse;

“(B) develop plans for coordinated, Governmentwide activities that address these problems and promote economy and efficiency in Federal programs and operations, including

interagency and interentity audit, investigation, inspection, and evaluation programs and projects to deal efficiently and effectively with those problems concerning fraud and waste that exceed the capability or jurisdiction of an individual agency or entity;

“(C) develop policies that will aid in the maintenance of a corps of well-trained and highly skilled Office of Inspector General personnel;

“(D) maintain an Internet website and other electronic systems for the benefit of all Inspectors General, as the Council determines are necessary or desirable;

“(E) maintain 1 or more academies as the Council considers desirable for the professional training of auditors, investigators, inspectors, evaluators, and other personnel of the various offices of Inspector General;

“(F) submit recommendations of individuals to the appropriate appointing authority for any appointment to an office of Inspector General described under subsection (b)(1)(A) or (B);

“(G) make such reports to Congress as the Chairperson determines are necessary or appropriate; and

“(H) perform other duties within the authority and jurisdiction of the Council, as appropriate.

“(2) ADHERENCE AND PARTICIPATION BY MEMBERS.—To the extent permitted under law, and to the extent not inconsistent with standards established by the Comptroller General of the United States for audits of Federal establishments, organizations, programs, activities, and functions, each member of the Council, as appropriate, shall—

“(A) adhere to professional standards developed by the Council; and

“(B) participate in the plans, programs, and projects of the Council, except that in the case of a member described under subsection (b)(1)(I), the member shall participate only to the extent requested by the member and approved by the Executive Chairperson and Chairperson.

“(3) ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES.—

“(A) INTERAGENCY FUNDING.—Notwithstanding section 1532 of title 31, United States Code, or any other provision of law prohibiting the interagency funding of activities described under subclause (I), (II), or (III) of clause (i), in the performance of the responsibilities, authorities, and duties of the Council—

“(i) the Executive Chairperson may authorize the use of interagency funding for—

“(I) Governmentwide training of employees of the Offices of the Inspectors General;

“(II) the functions of the Integrity Committee of the Council; and

“(III) any other authorized purpose determined by the Council; and

“(ii) upon the authorization of the Executive Chairperson, any department, agency, or entity of the executive branch which has a member on the Council shall fund or participate in the funding of such activities.

“(B) REVOLVING FUND.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Council may—

“(I) establish in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund to be called the Inspectors General Council Fund; or

“(II) enter into an arrangement with a department or agency to use an existing revolving fund.

“(ii) AMOUNTS IN REVOLVING FUND.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Amounts transferred to the Council under this subsection shall be deposited in the revolving fund described under clause (i)(I) or (II).

“(II) TRAINING.—Any remaining unexpended balances appropriated for or otherwise available to the Inspectors General Criminal Investigator Academy and the Inspectors General Auditor Training Institute

shall be transferred to the revolving fund described under clause (i)(I) or (II).

“(iii) USE OF REVOLVING FUND.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under subclause (II), amounts in the revolving fund described under clause (i)(I) or (II) may be used to carry out the functions and duties of the Council under this subsection.

“(II) TRAINING.—Amounts transferred into the revolving fund described under clause (i)(I) or (II) may be used for the purpose of maintaining any training academy as determined by the Council.

“(iv) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts in the revolving fund described under clause (i)(I) or (II) shall remain available to the Council without fiscal year limitation.

“(C) SUPERSEDING PROVISIONS.—No provision of law enacted after the date of enactment of this subsection shall be construed to limit or supersede any authority under subparagraph (A) or (B), unless such provision makes specific reference to the authority in that paragraph.

“(4) EXISTING AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The establishment and operation of the Council shall not affect—

“(A) the role of the Department of Justice in law enforcement and litigation;

“(B) the authority or responsibilities of any Government agency or entity; and

“(C) the authority or responsibilities of individual members of the Council.

“(d) INTEGRITY COMMITTEE.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Council shall have an Integrity Committee, which shall receive, review, and refer for investigation allegations of wrongdoing that are made against Inspectors General and staff members of the various Offices of Inspector General described under paragraph (4)(C).

“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Integrity Committee shall consist of the following members:

“(A) The official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation serving on the Council, who shall serve as Chairperson of the Integrity Committee, and maintain the records of the Committee.

“(B) Four Inspectors General described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(1) appointed by the Chairperson of the Council, representing both establishments and designated Federal entities (as that term is defined in section 8G(a)).

“(C) The Special Counsel of the Office of Special Counsel.

“(D) The Director of the Office of Government Ethics.

“(3) LEGAL ADVISOR.—The Chief of the Public Integrity Section of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, or his designee, shall serve as a legal advisor to the Integrity Committee.

“(4) REFERRAL OF ALLEGATIONS.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT.—An Inspector General shall refer to the Integrity Committee any allegation of wrongdoing against a staff member of the office of that Inspector General, if—

“(i) review of the substance of the allegation cannot be assigned to an agency of the executive branch with appropriate jurisdiction over the matter; and

“(ii) the Inspector General determines that—

“(I) an objective internal investigation of the allegation is not feasible; or

“(II) an internal investigation of the allegation may appear not to be objective.

“(B) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph the term ‘staff member’ means any employee of an Office of Inspector General who—

“(i) reports directly to an Inspector General; or

“(ii) is designated by an Inspector General under subparagraph (C).

“(C) DESIGNATION OF STAFF MEMBERS.—Each Inspector General shall annually submit to the Chairperson of the Integrity Committee a designation of positions whose holders are staff members for purposes of subparagraph (B).

“(5) REVIEW OF ALLEGATIONS.—The Integrity Committee shall—

“(A) review all allegations of wrongdoing the Integrity Committee receives against an Inspector General, or against a staff member of an Office of Inspector General described under paragraph (4)(C);

“(B) refer any allegation of wrongdoing to the agency of the executive branch with appropriate jurisdiction over the matter; and

“(C) refer to the Chairperson of the Integrity Committee any allegation of wrongdoing determined by the Integrity Committee under subparagraph (A) to be potentially meritorious that cannot be referred to an agency under subparagraph (B).

“(6) AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT.—The Chairperson of the Integrity Committee shall cause a thorough and timely investigation of each allegation referred under paragraph (5)(C) to be conducted in accordance with this paragraph.

“(B) RESOURCES.—At the request of the Chairperson of the Integrity Committee, the head of each agency or entity represented on the Council—

“(i) may provide resources necessary to the Integrity Committee; and

“(ii) may detail employees from that agency or entity to the Integrity Committee, subject to the control and direction of the Chairperson, to conduct an investigation under this subsection.

“(7) PROCEDURES FOR INVESTIGATIONS.—

“(A) STANDARDS APPLICABLE.—Investigations initiated under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with the most current Quality Standards for Investigations issued by the Council or by its predecessors (the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency and the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency).

“(B) ADDITIONAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—

“(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Integrity Committee, in conjunction with the Chairperson of the Council, shall establish additional policies and procedures necessary to ensure fairness and consistency in—

“(I) determining whether to initiate an investigation;

“(II) conducting investigations;

“(III) reporting the results of an investigation; and

“(IV) providing the person who is the subject of an investigation with an opportunity to respond to any Integrity Committee report.

“(ii) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Council shall submit a copy of the policies and procedures established under clause (i) to the congressional committees of jurisdiction.

“(C) REPORTS.—

“(i) POTENTIALLY MERITORIOUS ALLEGATIONS.—For allegations described under paragraph (5)(C), the Chairperson of the Integrity Committee shall make a report containing the results of the investigation of the Chairperson and shall provide such report to members of the Integrity Committee.

“(ii) ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING.—For allegations referred to an agency under paragraph (5)(B), the head of that agency shall make a report containing the results of the investigation and shall provide such report to members of the Integrity Committee.

“(8) ASSESSMENT AND FINAL DISPOSITION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any report received under paragraph (7)(C), the Integrity Committee shall—

“(i) assess the report;

“(ii) forward the report, with the recommendations of the Integrity Committee, including those on disciplinary action, within 30 days (to the maximum extent practicable) after the completion of the investigation, to the Executive Chairperson of the Council and to the President (in the case of a report relating to an Inspector General of an establishment or any employee of that Inspector General) or the head of a designated Federal entity (in the case of a report relating to an Inspector General of such an entity or any employee of that Inspector General) for resolution; and

“(iii) submit to the Committee on Government Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and other congressional committees of jurisdiction an executive summary of such report and recommendations within 30 days after the submission of such report to the Executive Chairperson under clause (ii).

“(B) DISPOSITION.—The Executive Chairperson of the Council shall report to the Integrity Committee the final disposition of the matter, including what action was taken by the President or agency head.

“(9) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Council shall submit to Congress and the President by December 31 of each year a report on the activities of the Integrity Committee during the preceding fiscal year, which shall include the following:

“(A) The number of allegations received.

“(B) The number of allegations referred to other agencies, including the number of allegations referred for criminal investigation.

“(C) The number of allegations referred to the Chairperson of the Integrity Committee for investigation.

“(D) The number of allegations closed without referral.

“(E) The date each allegation was received and the date each allegation was finally disposed of.

“(F) In the case of allegations referred to the Chairperson of the Integrity Committee, a summary of the status of the investigation of the allegations and, in the case of investigations completed during the preceding fiscal year, a summary of the findings of the investigations.

“(G) Other matters that the Council considers appropriate.

“(10) REQUESTS FOR MORE INFORMATION.—With respect to paragraphs (8) and (9), the Council shall provide more detailed information about specific allegations upon request from any of the following:

“(A) The chairperson or ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

“(B) The chairperson or ranking member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

“(C) The chairperson or ranking member of the congressional committees of jurisdiction.

“(11) NO RIGHT OR BENEFIT.—This subsection is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a person against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.”

(b) ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING AGAINST SPECIAL COUNSEL OR DEPUTY SPECIAL COUNSEL.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(A) the term “Integrity Committee” means the Integrity Committee established under section 11(d) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), as amended by this Act; and

(B) the term “Special Counsel” refers to the Special Counsel appointed under section 1211(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(2) AUTHORITY OF INTEGRITY COMMITTEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An allegation of wrongdoing against the Special Counsel or the Deputy Special Counsel may be received, reviewed, and referred for investigation by the Integrity Committee to the same extent and in the same manner as in the case of an allegation against an Inspector General (or a member of the staff of an Office of Inspector General), subject to the requirement that the Special Counsel recuse himself or herself from the consideration of any allegation brought under this paragraph.

(B) COORDINATION WITH EXISTING PROVISIONS OF LAW.—This subsection does not eliminate access to the Merit Systems Protection Board for review under section 7701 of title 5, United States Code. To the extent that an allegation brought under this subsection involves section 2302(b)(8) of that title, a failure to obtain corrective action within 120 days after the date on which that allegation is received by the Integrity Committee shall, for purposes of section 1221 of such title, be considered to satisfy section 1214(a)(3)(B) of that title.

(3) REGULATIONS.—The Integrity Committee may prescribe any rules or regulations necessary to carry out this subsection, subject to such consultation or other requirements as might otherwise apply.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXISTING EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—

(1) COUNCIL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency established under this section shall become effective and operational.

(2) EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—Executive Order No. 12805, dated May 11, 1992, and Executive Order No. 12933, dated March 21, 1996 (as in effect before the date of the enactment of this Act) shall have no force or effect on and after the earlier of—

(A) the date on which the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency becomes effective and operational as determined by the Executive Chairperson of the Council; or

(B) the last day of the 180-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 1978.—The Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(A) in sections 2(1), 4(b)(2), and 8G(a)(1)(A) by striking “section 11(2)” each place it appears and inserting “section 12(2)”; and

(B) in section 8G(a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “section 11” and inserting “section 12”.

(2) SEPARATE APPROPRIATIONS ACCOUNT.—Section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the first paragraph (33) and inserting the following:

“(33) a separate appropriation account for appropriations for the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and, included in that account, a separate statement of the aggregate amount of appropriations requested for each academy maintained by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.”

SEC. 8. SUBMISSION OF BUDGET REQUESTS TO CONGRESS.

Section 6 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f)(1) For each fiscal year, an Inspector General shall transmit a budget estimate and request to the head of the establishment or designated Federal entity to which the Inspector General reports. The budget request

shall specify the aggregate amount of funds requested for such fiscal year for the operations of that Inspector General and shall specify the amount requested for all training needs, including a certification from the Inspector General that the amount requested satisfies all training requirements for the Inspector General's office for that fiscal year, and any resources necessary to support the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. Resources necessary to support the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency shall be specifically identified and justified in the budget request.

“(2) In transmitting a proposed budget to the President for approval, the head of each establishment or designated Federal entity shall include—

“(A) an aggregate request for the Inspector General;

“(B) amounts for Inspector General training;

“(C) amounts for support of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency; and

“(D) any comments of the affected Inspector General with respect to the proposal.

“(3) The President shall include in each budget of the United States Government submitted to Congress—

“(A) a separate statement of the budget estimate prepared in accordance with paragraph (1);

“(B) the amount requested by the President for each Inspector General;

“(C) the amount requested by the President for training of Inspectors General;

“(D) the amount requested by the President for support for the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency; and

“(E) any comments of the affected Inspector General with respect to the proposal if the Inspector General concludes that the budget submitted by the President would substantially inhibit the Inspector General from performing the duties of the office.”.

SEC. 9. SUBPOENA POWER.

Section 6(a)(4) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) by inserting “in any medium (including electronically stored information, as well as any tangible thing)” after “other data”; and

(2) by striking “subpena” and inserting “subpoena”.

SEC. 10. PROGRAM FRAUD CIVIL REMEDIES ACT.

Section 3801(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) a designated Federal entity (as such term is defined under section 8G(a)(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978);”.

SEC. 11. LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY FOR DESIGNATED FEDERAL ENTITIES.

Section 6(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking “appointed under section 3”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) In this subsection, the term ‘Inspector General’ means an Inspector General appointed under section 3 or an Inspector General appointed under section 8G.”.

SEC. 12. APPLICATION OF SEMIANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO INSPECTION REPORTS AND EVALUATION REPORTS.

Section 5 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in each of subsections (a)(6), (a)(8), (a)(9), (b)(2), and (b)(3)—

(A) by inserting “, inspection reports, and evaluation reports” after “audit reports” the first place it appears; and

(B) by striking “audit” the second place it appears; and

(2) in subsection (a)(10) by inserting “, inspection reports, and evaluation reports” after “audit reports”.

SEC. 13. INFORMATION ON WEBSITES OF OFFICES OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by inserting after section 8K the following:

“SEC. 8L. INFORMATION ON WEBSITES OF OFFICES OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

“(a) DIRECT LINKS TO INSPECTORS GENERAL OFFICES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each agency shall establish and maintain on the homepage of the website of that agency, a direct link to the website of the Office of the Inspector General of that agency.

“(2) ACCESSIBILITY.—The direct link under paragraph (1) shall be obvious and facilitate accessibility to the website of the Office of the Inspector General.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR INSPECTORS GENERAL WEBSITES.—

“(1) POSTING OF REPORTS AND AUDITS.—The Inspector General of each agency shall—

“(A) not later than 3 days after any report or audit (or portion of any report or audit) is made publicly available, post that report or audit (or portion of that report or audit) on the website of the Office of Inspector General; and

“(B) ensure that any posted report or audit (or portion of that report or audit) described under subparagraph (A)—

“(i) is easily accessible from a direct link on the homepage of the website of the Office of the Inspector General;

“(ii) includes a summary of the findings of the Inspector General; and

“(iii) is in a format that—

“(I) is searchable and downloadable; and

“(II) facilitates printing by individuals of the public accessing the website.

“(2) REPORTING OF FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General of each agency shall establish and maintain a direct link on the homepage of the website of the Office of the Inspector General for individuals to report fraud, waste, and abuse. Individuals reporting fraud, waste, or abuse using the direct link established under this paragraph shall not be required to provide personally identifying information relating to that individual.

“(B) ANONYMITY.—The Inspector General of each agency shall not disclose the identity of any individual making a report under this paragraph without the consent of the individual unless the Inspector General determines that such a disclosure is unavoidable during the course of the investigation.”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 746(b) of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2008 (5 U.S.C. App. note; 121 Stat. 2034) is repealed.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the head of each agency and the Inspector General of each agency shall implement the amendment made by this section.

SEC. 14. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(d) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended to read as follows:

“(d)(1)(A) For purposes of applying the provisions of law identified in subparagraph (B)—

“(i) each Office of Inspector General shall be considered to be a separate agency; and

“(ii) the Inspector General who is the head of an office referred to in clause (i) shall, with respect to such office, have the functions, powers, and duties of an agency head or appointing authority under such provisions.

“(B) This paragraph applies with respect to the following provisions of title 5, United States Code:

“(i) Subchapter II of chapter 35.

“(ii) Sections 8335(b), 8336, 8344, 8414, 8468, and 8425(b).

“(iii) All provisions relating to the Senior Executive Service (as determined by the Office of Personnel Management), subject to paragraph (2).

“(2) For purposes of applying section 4507(b) of title 5, United States Code, paragraph (1)(A)(ii) shall be applied by substituting ‘the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (established by section 11 of the Inspector General Act)’ shall for ‘the Inspector General who is the head of an office referred to in clause (i) shall, with respect to such office,’.”

(b) AUTHORITY OF TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION TO PROTECT INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE EMPLOYEES.—Section 8D(k)(1)(C) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking “physical security” and inserting “protection to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. in room 328A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY AND THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER RECOVERY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at 10 a.m. in room 328A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE, LOCAL, AND PRIVATE SECTOR PREPAREDNESS AND INTEGRATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Mission Possible: FEMA’s Future Preparedness Planning.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during