

CHAPTER 2017-49

House Bill No. 207

An act relating to agency inspectors general; amending s. 20.055, F.S.; prohibiting an agency from offering a bonus on work performance in an inspector general contract or agreement; amending s. 420.506, F.S.; prohibiting the Florida Housing Finance Corporation from offering a bonus on work performance in an inspector general contract or agreement; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 20.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.055 Agency inspectors general.—

(3)(a)1. For state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Cabinet or the Governor and Cabinet, the inspector general shall be appointed by the agency head. For state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, the inspector general shall be appointed by the Chief Inspector General. The agency head or Chief Inspector General shall notify the Governor in writing of his or her intention to hire the inspector general at least 7 days before an offer of employment. The inspector general shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation.

2. Within 60 days after a vacancy or anticipated vacancy in the position of inspector general, the agency head or, for agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, the Chief Inspector General, shall initiate a national search for an inspector general and shall set the salary of the inspector general. Effective July 1, 2017, an agency that enters into an employment agreement, or renewal or renegotiation of an existing contract or employment agreement with an inspector general or deputy inspector, may not offer a bonus on work performance in the contract or agreement and the awarding of such bonuses is prohibited. In the event of a vacancy in the position of inspector general, the agency head or, for agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, the Chief Inspector General, may appoint other office of inspector general management personnel as interim inspector general until such time as a successor inspector general is appointed.

3. A former or current elected official may not be appointed inspector general within 5 years after the end of such individual's period of service. This restriction does not prohibit the reappointment of a current inspector general.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 420.506, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.506 Executive director; agents and employees; inspector general.—

(2)(a) The appointment and removal of an inspector general shall be by the executive director, with the advice and consent of the corporation's board of directors. The corporation's inspector general shall perform for the corporation the functions set forth in s. 20.055. The inspector general shall administratively report to the executive director. The inspector general shall meet the minimum qualifications as set forth in s. 20.055(4). The corporation may establish additional qualifications deemed necessary by the board of directors to meet the unique needs of the corporation. The inspector general shall be responsible for coordinating the responsibilities set forth in s. 420.0006.

(b) Effective July 1, 2017, if the corporation enters into an employment agreement, or renewal or renegotiation of an existing contract or employment agreement with an inspector general or deputy inspector, the corporation may not offer a bonus on work performance in the contract or agreement and the awarding of such bonuses is prohibited.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 2, 2017.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 2017.