AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2662, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS OF TEXAS

Strike title I and insert the following (and amend the table of contents accordingly):

TITLE I—REMOVAL OR TRANSFER OF INSPECTORS GENERAL; PLACEMENT ON NON-DUTY STATUS

SEC. 101. REMOVAL OR TRANSFER OF INSPECTORS GENERAL; PLACEMENT ON NON-DUTY STATUS.

(a) In general.—The Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in section 3(b)—

(A) by inserting “(1)(A)” after “(b)”;

(B) in paragraph (1), as so designated—

(i) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, in the second sentence—

(I) by striking “reasons” and inserting the following: “substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons,”; and

(II) by inserting “(including to the Committee on Homeland Security

...
and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General"

after "Houses of Congress"; and (ii) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) If there is an open or completed inquiry into an Inspector General that relates to the removal or transfer of the Inspector General under subparagraph (A), the written communication required under that subparagraph shall—

“(i) identify each entity that is conducting, or that conducted, the inquiry; and

“(ii) in the case of a completed inquiry, contain the findings made during the inquiry.”; and (C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2)(A) Subject to the other provisions of this paragraph, only the President may place an Inspector General on non-duty status.

“(B) If the President places an Inspector General on non-duty status, the President shall communicate in writing the substantive rationale, including detailed and case-
specific reasons, for the change in status to both Houses of Congress (including to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General) not later than 15 days before the date on which the change in status takes effect, except that the President may submit that communication on the date on which the change in status takes effect if—

“(i) the President has made a determination that the continued presence of the Inspector General in the workplace poses a threat described in any of clauses (i) through (iv) of section 6329b(b)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code; and

“(ii) in the communication, the President includes a report on the determination described in clause (i), which shall include—

“(I) a specification of which clause of section 6329b(b)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code, the President has determined applies under clause (i) of this subparagraph;

“(II) the substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons, for the determination made under clause (i);
“(III) an identification of each entity that is conducting, or that conducted, any inquiry upon which the determination under clause (i) was made; and

“(IV) in the case of an inquiry described in subclause (III) that is completed, the findings made during that inquiry.

“(C) The President may not place an Inspector General on non-duty status during the 30-day period preceding the date on which the Inspector General is removed or transferred under paragraph (1)(A) unless the President—

“(i) has made a determination that the continued presence of the Inspector General in the workplace poses a threat described in any of clauses (i) through (iv) of section 6329b(b)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code; and

“(ii) not later than the date on which the change in status takes effect, submits to both Houses of Congress (including to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General) a written commu-
communication that contains the information required
under subparagraph (B), including the report re-
quired under clause (ii) of that subparagraph.
“(D) For the purposes of this paragraph—
“(i) the term ‘Inspector General’—
“(I) means an Inspector General who was
appointed by the President, without regard to
whether the Senate provided advice and consent
with respect to that appointment; and
“(II) includes the Inspector General of an
establishment, the Special Inspector General for
Afghanistan Reconstruction, the Special Inspec-
tor General for the Troubled Asset Relief Pro-
gram, and the Special Inspector General for
Pandemic Recovery; and
“(ii) a reference to the removal or transfer of
an Inspector General under paragraph (1), or to the
written communication described in that paragraph,
shall be considered to be—
“(I) in the case of the Special Inspector
General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, a ref-
ence to section 1229(c)(6) of the National
Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008
(Public Law 110–181; 122 Stat. 379);
“(II) in the case of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, a reference to section 121(b)(4) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5231(b)(4)); and

“(III) in the case of the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery, a reference to section 4018(b)(3) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9053(b)(3)).”; and

(2) in section 8G(e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or placement on non-duty status” after “a removal”; 

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting “(A)” after “(2)”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, in the first sentence—

(I) by striking “reasons” and inserting the following: “substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons,”; and

(II) by inserting “(including to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and
Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General)” after “Houses of Congress”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) If there is an open or completed inquiry into an Inspector General that relates to the removal or transfer of the Inspector General under subparagraph (A), the written communication required under that subparagraph shall—

“(i) identify each entity that is conducting, or that conducted, the inquiry; and

“(ii) in the case of a completed inquiry, contain the findings made during the inquiry.”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3)(A) Subject to the other provisions of this paragraph, only the head of the applicable designated Federal entity (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘covered official’) may place an Inspector General on non-duty status.

“(B) If a covered official places an Inspector General on non-duty status, the covered official shall communicate in writing the substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons, for the change in status to both
Houses of Congress (including to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General) not later than 15 days before the date on which the change in status takes effect, except that the covered official may submit that communication on the date on which the change in status takes effect if—

“(i) the covered official has made a determination that the continued presence of the Inspector General in the workplace poses a threat described in any of clauses (i) through (iv) of section 6329b(b)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code; and

“(ii) in the communication, the covered official includes a report on the determination described in clause (i), which shall include—

“(I) a specification of which clause of section 6329b(b)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code, the covered official has determined applies under clause (i) of this subparagraph;

“(II) the substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons, for the determination made under clause (i);
“(III) an identification of each entity that is conducting, or that conducted, any inquiry upon which the determination under clause (i) was made; and

“(IV) in the case of an inquiry described in subclause (III) that is completed, the findings made during that inquiry.

“(C) A covered official may not place an Inspector General on non-duty status during the 30-day period preceding the date on which the Inspector General is removed or transferred under paragraph (2)(A) unless the covered official—

“(i) has made a determination that the continued presence of the Inspector General in the workplace poses a threat described in any of clauses (i) through (iv) of section 6329b(b)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code; and

“(ii) not later than the date on which the change in status takes effect, submits to both Houses of Congress (including to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General) a written commu-
communication that contains the information required under subparagraph (B), including the report required under clause (ii) of that subparagraph.

“(D) Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to limit or otherwise modify—

“(i) any statutory protection that is afforded to an Inspector General; or

“(ii) any other action that a covered official may take under law with respect to an Inspector General.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

Section 12(3) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by inserting “except as otherwise expressly provided,” before “the term”.

Strike title III and insert the following (and amend the table of contents accordingly):

**TITLE III—VACANCY IN POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**SEC. 301. VACANCY IN POSITION OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.**

(a) 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:

“(h)(1) In this subsection—
(A) the term ‘first assistant to the position of Inspector General’ means, with respect to an Office of Inspector General—

“(i) an individual who, as of the day before the date on which the Inspector General dies, resigns, or otherwise becomes unable to perform the functions and duties of that position—

“(I) is serving in a position in that Office; and

“(II) has been designated in writing by the Inspector General, through an order of succession or otherwise, as the first assistant to the position of Inspector General; or

“(ii) if the Inspector General has not made a designation described in clause (i)(II)—

“(I) the Principal Deputy Inspector General of that Office, as of the day before the date on which the Inspector General dies, resigns, or otherwise becomes unable to perform the functions and duties of that position; or

“(II) if there is no Principal Deputy Inspector General of that Office, the Deputy Inspector General of that Office, as of
the day before the date on which the Inspector General dies, resigns, or otherwise becomes unable to perform the functions and duties of that position; and

“(B) the term ‘Inspector General’—

“(i) means an Inspector General who is appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

“(ii) includes the Inspector General of an establishment, the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, and the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery.

“(2) If an Inspector General dies, resigns, or is otherwise unable to perform the functions and duties of the position—

“(A) section 3345(a) of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply;

“(B) subject to paragraph (3), the first assistant to the position of Inspector General shall perform the functions and duties of the Inspector General temporarily in an acting capacity subject to the time limitations of section 3346 of title 5, United States Code; and
“(C) notwithstanding subparagraph (B), and subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), the President (and only the President) may direct an officer or employee of any Office of an Inspector General to perform the functions and duties of the Inspector General temporarily in an acting capacity subject to the time limitations of section 3346 of title 5, United States Code, only if—

“(i) during the 365-day period preceding the date of death, resignation, or beginning of inability to serve of the Inspector General, the officer or employee served in a position in an Office of an Inspector General for not less than 90 days, except that—

“(I) the requirement under this clause shall not apply if the officer is an Inspector General; and

“(II) for the purposes of this subparagraph, performing the functions and duties of an Inspector General temporarily in an acting capacity does not qualify as service in a position in an Office of an Inspector General;

“(ii) the rate of pay for the position of the officer or employee described in clause (i) is
equal to or greater than the minimum rate of pay payable for a position at GS–15 of the General Schedule;

“(iii) the officer or employee has demonstrated ability in accounting, auditing, financial analysis, law, management analysis, public administration, or investigations; and

“(iv) not later than 30 days before the date on which the direction takes effect, the President communicates in writing to both Houses of Congress (including to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives, and any other congressional committee that has jurisdiction with respect to that Inspector General) the substantive rationale, including the detailed and case-specific reasons, for such direction, including the reason for the direction that someone other than the individual who is performing the functions and duties of the Inspector General temporarily in an acting capacity (as of the date on which the President issues that direction) perform those functions and duties temporarily in an acting capacity.
“(3) An individual may perform the functions and duties of an Inspector General temporarily and in an acting capacity under subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (2), with respect to only 1 Inspector General position at any given time.

“(4) If the President makes a direction under paragraph (2)(C), during the 30-day period preceding the date on which the direction of the President takes effect, the functions and duties of the position of the applicable Inspector General shall be performed by—

“(A) the first assistant to the position of Inspector General; or

“(B) the individual performing those functions and duties temporarily in an acting capacity, as of the date on which the President issues that direction, if that individual is an individual other than the first assistant to the position of Inspector General.”.

(b) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in the amendment made by subsection (a) may be construed to limit the applicability of sections 3345 through 3349d of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998”), other than with respect to section 3345(a) of that title.

(c) Effective Date.—
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(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “Inspector General” has the meaning given the term in subsection (h)(1)(B) of section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), as added by subsection (a) of this section.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this section, and the amendments made by this section, shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) EXISTING VACANCIES.—If, as of the date of enactment of this Act, an individual is performing the functions and duties of an Inspector General temporarily in an acting capacity, this section, and the amendments made by this section, shall take effect with respect to that Inspector General position on the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Page 27, line 2, insert before the closing quote the following new subsections:

“(h) APPLICABILITY TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—No authority granted in this section may be used on a former Federal employee who was not employed as a Federal employee on the date of the enactment of this section.
“(i) PAYMENT OF LEGAL FEES.—Any Inspector General who uses the authority granted in this section shall pay for the legal representation of the individual whose testimony they are seeking to compel by subpoena.”