

Public Law 94-505
94th Congress

An Act

To authorize conveyance of the interests of the United States in certain lands in Salt Lake County, Utah, to Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children, a Colorado corporation.

Oct. 15, 1976

[H.R. 11347]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of General Services is authorized, subject to section 2 of this Act, to convey to the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children, a Colorado corporation, without consideration, all right, title, and interest remaining in the United States in and to the following described land, being a portion of the tract conveyed to Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children by deed of July 12, 1946, pursuant to the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the Secretary of War to convey certain lands situated within the Fort Douglas Military Reservation to the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children", approved March 14, 1946 (60 Stat. 55):

Shriners'
Hospitals for
Crippled
Children, Utah.
Conveyance.
Office of
Inspector General
in HEW.
Establishment.

Beginning at a point north 0 degrees 01 minutes 57 seconds west 42.07 feet and south 75 degrees 09 minutes 12 seconds east 34.14 feet from a Salt Lake City monument at the intersection of Eleventh Avenue and Virginia Street, such point being further described as north 529.37 feet and east 268.85 feet from the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 33, township 1 north, range 1 east, Salt Lake base and meridian; running thence south 0 degrees 01 minutes 57 seconds east 30.76 feet; thence south 87 degrees 50 minutes 03 seconds east 135.45 feet; thence north 75 degrees 09 minutes 12 seconds west 140.04 feet to the point of beginning.

Description.

SEC. 2. (a) The conveyance to be made under this Act shall be subject to the condition that the transferee, the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children, shall reconvey or dedicate the land specifically described in the first section of this Act to Salt Lake County, Utah, for street construction purposes.

Conditions.

(b) The costs of any surveys necessary as an incident to the conveyance authorized by this Act shall be borne by the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children.

Costs.

TITLE II—OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SEC. 201. In order to create an independent and objective unit—

Establishment.
42 USC 3521.

(1) to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to programs and operations of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare;

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

(3) to provide a means for keeping the Secretary and the Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of such programs and operations and the necessity for and progress of corrective action; there is hereby established in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare an Office of Inspector General.

OFFICERS

42 USC 3522.

SEC. 202. (a) There shall be at the head of the Office an Inspector General who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability and without regard to political affiliation. The Inspector General shall report to and be under the general supervision of the Secretary or, to the extent such authority is delegated, the Under Secretary, but shall not be under the control of, or subject to supervision by, any other officer of the Department.

(b) There shall also be in the Office a Deputy Inspector General appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability and without regard to political affiliation. The Deputy shall assist the Inspector General in the administration of the Office and shall, during the absence or temporary incapacity of the Inspector General, or during a vacancy in that office, act as Inspector General.

(c) The Inspector General or the Deputy may be removed from office by the President. The President shall communicate the reasons for any such removal to both Houses of Congress.

5 USC 7321.

(d) The Inspector General and the Deputy shall each be subject to the provisions of subchapter III of chapter 73, title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding any exemption from such provisions which might otherwise apply.

(e) The Inspector General shall, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations governing the civil service—

(1) appoint an Assistant Inspector General for Auditing who shall have the responsibility for supervising the performance of the functions, powers, and duties transferred by section 6(a)(1), and

(2) appoint an Assistant Inspector General for Investigations who shall have the responsibility for supervising the performance of the functions, powers, and duties transferred by section 6(a)(2).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

42 USC 3523.

SEC. 203. (a) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the Inspector General—

(1) to supervise, coordinate, and provide policy direction for auditing and investigative activities relating to programs and operations of the Department;

(2) to recommend policies for, and to conduct, supervise, or coordinate other activities carried out or financed by the Department for the purpose of promoting economy and efficiency in the administration of, or preventing and detecting fraud and abuse in, its programs and operations;

(3) to recommend policies for, and to conduct, supervise, or coordinate relationships between the Department and other Federal agencies, State and local governmental agencies, and non-governmental entities with respect to (A) all matters relating to the promotion of economy and efficiency in the administration of, or the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse in, programs and operations administered or financed by the Department, or (B) the identification and prosecution of participants in such fraud or abuse; and

(4) to keep the Secretary and the Congress fully and currently informed, by means of the reports required by section 4 and other-

wise, concerning fraud and other serious problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations administered or financed by the Department, to recommend corrective action concerning such problems, abuses, and deficiencies, and to report on the progress made in implementing such corrective action.

(b) In carrying out the responsibilities specified in subsection (a)(1), the Inspector General shall have authority to approve or disapprove the use of outside auditors or to take other appropriate steps to insure the competence and independence of such auditors.

(c) In carrying out the duties and responsibilities provided by this Act, the Inspector General shall give particular regard to the activities of the Comptroller General of the United States with a view to avoiding duplication and insuring effective coordination and cooperation.

(d) The Inspector General shall establish within his office an appropriate and adequate staff with specific responsibility for devoting their full time and attention to antifraud and antiabuse activities relating to the medicaid, medicare, renal disease, and maternal and child health programs. Such staff shall report to the Deputy.

REPORTS

SEC. 204. (a) The Inspector General shall, not later than March 31 of each year, submit a report to the Secretary and to the Congress summarizing the activities of the Office during the preceding calendar year. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to— 42 USC 3524.

(1) an identification and description of significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the Department disclosed by such activities;

(2) a description of recommendations for corrective action made by the Office with respect to significant problems, abuses, or deficiencies identified and described under paragraph (1);

(3) an evaluation of progress made in implementing recommendations described in the report or, where appropriate, in previous reports; and

(4) a summary of matters referred to prosecutive authorities and the extent to which prosecutions and convictions have resulted.

(b) The Inspector General shall make reports on a quarterly basis to the Secretary and to the appropriate committees or subcommittees of the Congress identifying any significant problems, abuses, or deficiencies concerning which the Office has made a recommendation for corrective action and on which, in the judgment of the Inspector General, adequate progress is not being made.

(c) The Inspector General shall report immediately to the Secretary, and within seven calendar days thereafter to the appropriate committees or subcommittees of the Congress, whenever the Office becomes aware of particularly serious or flagrant problems, abuses, or deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the Department. The Deputy and Assistant Inspectors General shall have particular responsibility for informing the Inspector General of such problems, abuses, or deficiencies.

(d) The Inspector General (A) may make such additional investigations and reports relating to the administration of the programs and operations of the Department as are, in the judgment of the Inspector General, necessary or desirable, and (B) shall provide such additional information or documents as may be requested by either House of

Congress or, with respect to matters within their jurisdiction, by any committee or subcommittee thereof.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the reports, information, or documents required by or under this section shall be transmitted to the Secretary and the Congress, or committees or subcommittees thereof, by the Inspector General without further clearance or approval. The Inspector General shall, insofar as feasible, provide copies of the reports required under subsections (a) and (b) to the Secretary sufficiently in advance of the due date for their submission to Congress to provide a reasonable opportunity for comments of the Secretary to be appended to the reports when submitted to Congress.

AUTHORITY; ADMINISTRATION PROVISIONS

42 USC 3525.

SEC. 205. (a) In addition to the authority otherwise provided by this Act, the Inspector General, in carrying out the provisions of this Act, is authorized—

(1) to have access to all records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other material available to the Department which relate to programs and operations with respect to which the Inspector General has responsibilities under this Act;

(2) to request such information or assistance as may be necessary for carrying out the duties and responsibilities provided by this Act from any Federal, State, or local governmental agency or unit thereof;

(3) to require by subpoena the production of all information, documents, reports, answers, records, accounts, papers, and other data and documentary evidence necessary in the performance of the functions assigned by this Act, which subpoena, in the case of contumacy or refusal to obey, shall be enforceable by order of any appropriate United States district court;

(4) to have direct and prompt access to the Secretary when necessary for any purpose pertaining to the performance of functions and responsibilities under this Act;

(5) in the event that a budget request for the Office of Inspector General is reduced, before submission to Congress, to an extent which the Inspector General deems seriously detrimental to the adequate performance of the functions mandated by this Act, the Inspector General shall so inform the Congress without delay;

5 USC 101.

5 USC 5101,
5332.

5 USC 5332.

(6) to select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Office 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;

(7) to obtain services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, at daily rates not to exceed the equivalent rate prescribed for grade GS-18 of the General Schedule by section 5332 of title 5, United States Code;

(8) to the extent and in such amounts as may be provided in advance by appropriations Acts, to enter into contracts and other arrangements for audits, studies, analyses, and other services with public agencies and with private persons, and to make such

payments as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(b) (1) Upon request of the Inspector General for information or assistance under subsection (a) (2), the head of any Federal agency involved shall, insofar as is practicable, and not in contravention of any existing statutory restriction, or regulation of the Federal agency from which the information is requested, furnish to the Inspector General, or to an authorized designee, such information or assistance.

(2) Whenever information or assistance requested under subsection (a) (1) or (a) (2) is, in the judgment of the Inspector General, unreasonably refused or not provided, the Inspector General shall report the circumstances to the Secretary and to the appropriate committees or subcommittees of the Congress without delay.

(3) In the event any record or other information requested by the Inspector General under subsection (a) (1) or (a) (2) is not considered to be available under the provisions of section 552a(b) (1), (3), or (7) of title 5, United States Code, such record or information shall be available to the Inspector General in the same manner and to the same extent it would be available to the Comptroller General.

(c) The Secretary shall provide the Inspector General and his staff with appropriate and adequate office space at central and field office locations of the Department, together with such equipment, office supplies, and communications facilities and services as may be necessary for the operation of such offices, and shall provide necessary maintenance services for such offices and the equipment and facilities located therein.

(d) (1) The Inspector General shall receive compensation at the rate provided for level IV of the Executive Schedule by section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) The Deputy shall receive compensation at the rate provided for level V of the Executive Schedule by section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

Report to Secretary and congressional committees.

Compensation.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

SEC. 206. (a) There are hereby transferred to the Office of Inspector General the functions, powers, and duties of— 42 USC 3526.

(1) the agency of the Department referred to as the "HEW Audit Agency";

(2) the office of the Department referred to as the "Office of Investigations"; and

(3) such other offices or agencies, or functions, powers, or duties thereof, as the Secretary may, with the consent of the Inspector General, determine are properly related to the functions of the Office and would, if so transferred, further the purposes of this Act.

except that there shall not be transferred to the Inspector General under clause (3) program operating responsibilities.

(b) The personnel, assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other funds employed, held, used, arising from, available or to be made available, of any office or agency the functions, powers, and duties of which are transferred under subsection (a) are hereby transferred to the Office of Inspector General.

(c) Personnel transferred pursuant to subsection (b) shall be transferred in accordance with applicable laws and regulations relating to the transfer of functions except that the classification and compensation of such personnel shall not be reduced for one year after such transfer.

(d) In any case where all the functions, powers, and duties of any office or agency are transferred pursuant to this subsection, such office or agency shall lapse. Any person who, on the effective date of this Act, held a position compensated in accordance with the General Schedule, and who, without a break in service, is appointed in the Office to a position having duties comparable to those performed immediately preceding such appointment shall continue to be compensated in the new position at not less than the rate provided for the previous position, for the duration of service in the new position.

DEFINITIONS

42 USC 3527.

SEC. 207. As used in this Act—

- (1) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare;
- (2) the term "Department" means the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare;
- (3) the term "Inspector General" means the Inspector General of the Department;
- (4) the term "Deputy" means the Deputy Inspector General of the Department; and
- (5) the term "Federal agency" means an agency as defined in section 552(e) of title 5, United States Code, but shall not be construed to include the General Accounting Office.

Approved October 15, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 94-1240 (Comm. on Government Operations).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-1324 (Comm. on Government Operations).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

July 20, considered and passed House.

Sept. 28, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Sept. 29, House agreed to Senate amendment.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 12, No. 42:

Oct. 15, President statement.