

By: Perry

H.B. No. 3369

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the office of inspector general.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 4, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 422 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 422. OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Sec. 422.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "office" means the office of inspector general established under this chapter.

Sec. 422.002. OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL. The office of inspector general is an independent agency.

Sec. 422.003. GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES. (a) The office is responsible for the investigation of fraudulent insurance acts, including Medicaid fraud and fraud under the workers' compensation system, in this state.

(b) The office shall:

(1) report to and perform duties as directed by the governor; and

(2) provide assistance to:

(A) inspectors general of state agencies who have jurisdiction over insurance; and

(B) the insurance fraud unit of the Texas Department of Insurance.

Sec. 422.004. CONTRACTS FOR INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES. The inspector general may contract with certified public accountants,

1 qualified management consultants, or other professional experts as
2 necessary to independently perform investigative services.

3 Sec. 422.005. GENERAL POWERS. The office has all the powers
4 necessary or appropriate to carry out its responsibilities and
5 functions under this chapter.

6 Sec. 422.006. COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS
7 AND OTHER ENTITIES. (a) The office shall provide information and
8 evidence relating to criminal acts to the state auditor's office
9 and appropriate law enforcement officials.

10 (b) The office shall refer matters for further civil,
11 criminal, and administrative action to appropriate administrative
12 and prosecutorial agencies, including the attorney general.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.