STATE OF NEW YORK

7354

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

August 30, 2021

Introduced by Sen. PALUMBO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to the establishment and organization of the state inspector general

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 52 of the executive law, as added by chapter 766 of the laws of 2005, is amended as follows:

§ 52. Establishment and organization. 1. There is hereby established the office of the state inspector general [~~in the executive department~~]. The head of the office shall be the state inspector general who shall be appointed **jointly** by **a majority vote of** the governor**, the attorney general, the state comptroller, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the senate, and the minority leader of the assembly**.

2. The state inspector general shall hold office until the end of [~~the term of the governor by whom he or she was appointed~~] **a term of two years** and until his or her successor is appointed and has qualified. **Beginning in December two thousand twenty-one, and every December every two years thereafter, the appointing authorities shall jointly appoint a new inspector general or reappoint the existing inspector general.**

3. The state inspector general shall [~~report to the secretary to the governor~~] **ensure that any and all activities of the office remain independent from the governor and the executive department and remain free from influence from the governor and the executive department**.

4. The state inspector general may appoint one or more deputy inspectors general to serve at his or her pleasure, who shall be responsible for conducting investigations in the agencies to which they are designated and in which they are deemed employed.

5. The salary of the inspector general shall be established [~~by the governor~~] **at a rate equal to the annual rate established as of May thir-**

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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ty-first, two thousand twenty-one; provided such salary may be adjusted by joint resolution approved by the legislature within the limit of funds available therefore; **and** provided, however, such salary shall be no less than the salaries of certain state officers holding the positions indicated in paragraph (a) of subdivision one of section one hundred sixty-nine of the executive law.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.