

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 159

BY SENATOR MURRAY

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION. Authorizes certain personnel in office of the state inspector general to be duly commissioned law enforcement officers. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 49:220.24(J) and (M), and to enact R.S. 49:220.24(N), relative
3 to the duties, powers, standards, functions and authority of certain agents of the
4 office of the state inspector general; to provide for arrest powers; to provide for
5 POST certification; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 49:220.24(J) and (M) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
8 49:220.24(N) is enacted to read as follows:

9 §220.24. Authority; duties; powers; standards; functions

10 * * *

11 J. The office of the state inspector general is hereby designated as a law
12 enforcement agency and conferred all investigative powers and privileges
13 appurtenant to a law enforcement agency under state law as necessary and in
14 furtherance of the authority, duties, powers, and functions set forth in this Part. These
15 powers and privileges shall ~~not~~ include arrest powers ~~but~~ **and** shall include access
16 to ~~computer systems~~ **any law enforcement database or computer information**
17 **system**, information maintained for the use of law enforcement personnel, and any

1 information contained in the criminal history record and identification file of the
 2 Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information. The office's arrest
 3 powers shall be held only by the inspector general and the law enforcement
 4 agents of the office. The law enforcement agents shall be restricted to only those
 5 members of the office who are full-time employees of the state whose permanent
 6 duties actually include the making of arrests, the performing of searches and
 7 seizures, the execution of criminal warrants, and the responsibility for the
 8 enforcement of the penal laws of this state. In order for an individual to become
 9 a duly commissioned law enforcement agent of the office, that individual agent
 10 must have first successfully completed POST basic peace officer certification
 11 training at a POST accredited academy.

12 * * *

13 M. The inspector general is authorized to issue the commissions to
 14 individuals who meet the qualifications in this Section to serve as law
 15 enforcement agents of the office.

16 ~~M. N.~~ The inspector general shall do all things necessary to carry out the
 17 functions set forth in this Part.

18 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 19 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 20 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 21 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 22 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Lauren Bailey.

DIGEST

Present law provides for authority, duties, powers, standards and functions of the inspector
 general, but denies the inspector general arrest powers.

Proposed law retains present law and grants arrest powers to the inspector general and
 individuals who serve as law enforcement agents of the office.

Proposed law provides for authority of the inspector general and the law enforcement agents
 of the office to enforce the penal laws of the state and be commissioned and issue

commissions to carry weapons when carrying out the functions of the office.

Proposed law requires that in order for an individual to become a duly commissioned law enforcement agent of the office, that individual agent must be a full-time employee of the OIG and have first successfully completed POST basic peace officer certification training at a POST accredited academy.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 49:220.24(J) and (M); adds R.S. 49:220.24(N))