

Memorandum

DATE: August 26, 2026

TO: Members of the Legislative Inspector General Advisory Commission

FROM: Michelle Yurich, LCC Executive Director

RE: Organizational Overview – First Meeting of the Legislative Inspector General Advisory Commission

PURPOSE

To familiarize members of the Legislative Inspector General Advisory Commission with the Commission's duties, timelines, and operating requirements as outlined in Laws 2026, Chapter 92, article 1, sections 15 and 18¹.

COMMISSION COMPOSITION

The Commission consists of eight members², four from the Senate and four from the House of Representatives:

1. Two senators appointed by the majority leader of the Senate
2. Two senators appointed by the minority leader of the Senate
3. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
4. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

Members serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authorities. Each member serves until a replacement is appointed, with no fixed term length and no limit on the number of terms a member may serve.³

¹ Laws 2026, chapter 92, article 1, section 15 is proposed to be codified as Minn. Stat. section 15E.60 when publication of Laws 2026 is completed.

² Article 1, Sec. 15 subd. 1(1-4)

³ Id. at Subd. 2

CHAIR ELECTION

Initial Meeting

The Senate Majority Leader is required to designate one member of the Commission to convene the first meeting by September 15, 2026.⁴ At the first meeting, the Commission must elect a chair from among its Senate members.⁵

Subsequent Chairs

Subsequent chairs are selected by the commission by January 31 of each odd-numbered year. The chair must alternate biennially between the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Chair serves until a successor is elected.⁶

DUTIES

Initial Duties

By January 1, 2027, the Commission must:

- Make recommendations for the appointment of the first inspector general⁷;
- Conduct at least one hearing on, and provide recommendations to, the chairs and ranking minority members of the committees in the Senate and House of Representatives with jurisdictions over commerce and public safety, the question of merging the Financial Crimes and Fraud section of the Department of Public Safety into the office of the inspector general.⁸

Ongoing Duties⁹

- Must consider applicants and make recommendations to the governor for the position of inspector general.
- May conduct hearings to review the work of the inspector general to ensure impartiality, independence, and effectiveness.

⁴ Article 1, Sec. 18, Subd. 2

⁵ Id.

⁶ Id. at Subd. 3

⁷ Article 1, Sec. 17, Subd. 1

⁸ Sec. 15, Subd. 4(b)

⁹ Id. at Subd. 4(a)

Inspector General Candidate Recommendation Process

The Commission is responsible for conducting a competitive process for the inspector general position and recommending candidates to the governor. To be recommended by the Commission, a candidate must be approved by at least five of the eight members of the Commission.¹⁰ The commission must assess eligible candidates based on qualifications, including experience in auditing, financial analysis, public administration, law enforcement, or related fields.¹¹ If the Senate does not confirm a gubernatorial appointee, the Commission must restart the candidate-consideration and recommendation process.

Candidate Eligibility Requirements¹²

To be eligible to be appointed as inspector general, a candidate must have:

1. a bachelor's or higher degree in criminal justice, public administration, law, or related field;
2. at least 10 years of professional experience in auditing, investigations, law enforcement, or a related area;
3. hold a professional certificate from the Association of Inspector General, including Certified Inspector General or Certified Inspector General Investigator; and
4. demonstrate a commitment to safeguarding the mission of public service and provide a public disclosure of prior professional opinions, positions, or actions that may influence the candidate's approach to the role.

NOTE: Current or former commissioners, agency heads, deputy commissioners or agency heads, governors, or legislators, and people elected to an office other than governor or legislator, are not eligible to serve as inspector general within five years of their service in those roles.

Disclosure and Nonpartisanship¹³

A candidate considered by the Commission or appointed by the governor must disclose all political affiliations, appointments, campaign work, or partisan activities prior to confirmation.

Vacancy Recommendations¹⁴

When a vacancy occurs or is anticipated in the office of the inspector general, the Commission must provide recommendations to the governor within:

- 90 days of a vacancy occurring; or

¹⁰ Sec. 6, Subd. 2

¹¹ Id.

¹² Id. at Subd. 1

¹³ Id. at Subd. 5-6

¹⁴ Sec. 6 Subd. 4

- Within 60 days of being advised by the inspector general that a vacancy is expected to occur.

Ongoing Oversight

The Commission may conduct hearings to review the inspector general's work and ensure impartiality, independence, and effectiveness.¹⁵ The inspector general is required to submit an annual report summarizing the office's work to the Commission and to make it publicly available.¹⁶

COMMISSION OPERATIONS

Administration

The LCC must provide meeting space and staff to assist the Commission in performing its duties.¹⁷

Open Meeting Law

The Commission is subject to the open meeting law requirements of Minn. Stat. § 3.055.¹⁸

Per Diem and Expense Reimbursement

Members may be compensated for time spent on Commission duties and may be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with the rules of their respective legislative bodies.¹⁹

¹⁵ Sec. 15 Subd. 4 (a)(2)

¹⁶ Sec. 7 Subd. 1 (9)

¹⁷ Sec. 15 Subd. 6

¹⁸ Id. at Subd. 7

¹⁹ Id. at Subd. 5