

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Human Services Act is amended
5 by changing Section 1-17 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1305/1-17)

7 Sec. 1-17. Inspector General.

8 (a) Nature and purpose. It is the express intent of the
9 General Assembly to ensure the health, safety, and financial
10 condition of individuals receiving services in this State due
11 to mental illness, developmental disability, or both by
12 protecting those persons from acts of abuse, neglect, or both
13 by service providers. To that end, the Office of the Inspector
14 General for the Department of Human Services is created to
15 investigate and report upon allegations of the abuse, neglect,
16 or financial exploitation of individuals receiving services
17 within mental health facilities, developmental disabilities
18 facilities, and community agencies operated, licensed, funded
19 or certified by the Department of Human Services, but not
20 licensed or certified by any other State agency.

21 (b) Definitions. The following definitions apply to this
22 Section:

23 "Adult student with a disability" means an adult student,

1 age 18 through 21, inclusive, with an Individual Education
2 Program, other than a resident of a facility licensed by the
3 Department of Children and Family Services in accordance with
4 the Child Care Act of 1969. For purposes of this definition,
5 "through age 21, inclusive", means through the day before the
6 student's 22nd birthday.

7 "Agency" or "community agency" means (i) a community agency
8 licensed, funded, or certified by the Department, but not
9 licensed or certified by any other human services agency of the
10 State, to provide mental health service or developmental
11 disabilities service, or (ii) a program licensed, funded, or
12 certified by the Department, but not licensed or certified by
13 any other human services agency of the State, to provide mental
14 health service or developmental disabilities service.

15 "Aggravating circumstance" means a factor that is
16 attendant to a finding and that tends to compound or increase
17 the culpability of the accused.

18 "Allegation" means an assertion, complaint, suspicion, or
19 incident involving any of the following conduct by an employee,
20 facility, or agency against an individual or individuals:
21 mental abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or
22 financial exploitation.

23 "Day" means working day, unless otherwise specified.

24 "Deflection" means a situation in which an individual is
25 presented for admission to a facility or agency, and the
26 facility staff or agency staff do not admit the individual.

1 "Deflection" includes triage, redirection, and denial of
2 admission.

3 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

4 "Developmental disability" means "developmental
5 disability" as defined in the Mental Health and Developmental
6 Disabilities Code.

7 "Egregious neglect" means a finding of neglect as
8 determined by the Inspector General that (i) represents a gross
9 failure to adequately provide for, or a callused indifference
10 to, the health, safety, or medical needs of an individual and
11 (ii) results in an individual's death or other serious
12 deterioration of an individual's physical condition or mental
13 condition.

14 "Employee" means any person who provides services at the
15 facility or agency on-site or off-site. The service
16 relationship can be with the individual or with the facility or
17 agency. Also, "employee" includes any employee or contractual
18 agent of the Department of Human Services or the community
19 agency involved in providing or monitoring or administering
20 mental health or developmental disability services. This
21 includes but is not limited to: owners, operators, payroll
22 personnel, contractors, subcontractors, and volunteers.

23 "Facility" or "State-operated facility" means a mental
24 health facility or developmental disabilities facility
25 operated by the Department.

26 "Financial exploitation" means taking unjust advantage of

1 an individual's assets, property, or financial resources
2 through deception, intimidation, or conversion for the
3 employee's, facility's, or agency's own advantage or benefit.

4 "Finding" means the Office of Inspector General's
5 determination regarding whether an allegation is
6 substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unfounded.

7 "Health Care Worker Registry" or "Registry" means the
8 Health Care Worker Registry under the Health Care Worker
9 Background Check Act.

10 "Individual" means any person receiving mental health
11 service, developmental disabilities service, or both from a
12 facility or agency, while either on-site or off-site.

13 "Mental abuse" means the use of demeaning, intimidating, or
14 threatening words, signs, gestures, or other actions by an
15 employee about an individual and in the presence of an
16 individual or individuals that results in emotional distress or
17 maladaptive behavior, or could have resulted in emotional
18 distress or maladaptive behavior, for any individual present.

19 "Mental illness" means "mental illness" as defined in the
20 Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code.

21 "Mentally ill" means having a mental illness.

22 "Mitigating circumstance" means a condition that (i) is
23 attendant to a finding, (ii) does not excuse or justify the
24 conduct in question, but (iii) may be considered in evaluating
25 the severity of the conduct, the culpability of the accused, or
26 both the severity of the conduct and the culpability of the

1 accused.

2 "Neglect" means an employee's, agency's, or facility's
3 failure to provide adequate medical care, personal care, or
4 maintenance and that, as a consequence, (i) causes an
5 individual pain, injury, or emotional distress, (ii) results in
6 either an individual's maladaptive behavior or the
7 deterioration of an individual's physical condition or mental
8 condition, or (iii) places the individual's health or safety at
9 substantial risk.

10 "Person with a developmental disability" means a person
11 having a developmental disability.

12 "Physical abuse" means an employee's non-accidental and
13 inappropriate contact with an individual that causes bodily
14 harm. "Physical abuse" includes actions that cause bodily harm
15 as a result of an employee directing an individual or person to
16 physically abuse another individual.

17 "Recommendation" means an admonition, separate from a
18 finding, that requires action by the facility, agency, or
19 Department to correct a systemic issue, problem, or deficiency
20 identified during an investigation.

21 "Required reporter" means any employee who suspects,
22 witnesses, or is informed of an allegation of any one or more
23 of the following: mental abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse,
24 neglect, or financial exploitation.

25 "Secretary" means the Chief Administrative Officer of the
26 Department.

1 "Sexual abuse" means any sexual contact or intimate
2 physical contact between an employee and an individual,
3 including an employee's coercion or encouragement of an
4 individual to engage in sexual behavior that results in sexual
5 contact, intimate physical contact, sexual behavior, or
6 intimate physical behavior. Sexual abuse also includes (i) an
7 employee's actions that result in the sending or showing of
8 sexually explicit images to an individual via computer,
9 cellular phone, electronic mail, portable electronic device,
10 or other media with or without contact with the individual or
11 (ii) an employee's posting of sexually explicit images of an
12 individual online or elsewhere whether or not there is contact
13 with the individual.

14 "Sexually explicit images" includes, but is not limited to,
15 any material which depicts nudity, sexual conduct, or
16 sado-masochistic abuse, or which contains explicit and
17 detailed verbal descriptions or narrative accounts of sexual
18 excitement, sexual conduct, or sado-masochistic abuse.

19 "Substantiated" means there is a preponderance of the
20 evidence to support the allegation.

21 "Unfounded" means there is no credible evidence to support
22 the allegation.

23 "Unsubstantiated" means there is credible evidence, but
24 less than a preponderance of evidence to support the
25 allegation.

26 (c) Appointment. The Governor shall appoint, and the Senate

1 shall confirm, an Inspector General. The Inspector General
2 shall be appointed for a term of 4 years and shall function
3 within the Department of Human Services and report to the
4 Secretary and the Governor.

5 (d) Operation and appropriation. The Inspector General
6 shall function independently within the Department with
7 respect to the operations of the Office, including the
8 performance of investigations and issuance of findings and
9 recommendations. The appropriation for the Office of Inspector
10 General shall be separate from the overall appropriation for
11 the Department.

12 (e) Powers and duties. The Inspector General shall
13 investigate reports of suspected mental abuse, physical abuse,
14 sexual abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of
15 individuals in any mental health or developmental disabilities
16 facility or agency and shall have authority to take immediate
17 action to prevent any one or more of the following from
18 happening to individuals under its jurisdiction: mental abuse,
19 physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or financial
20 exploitation. Upon written request of an agency of this State,
21 the Inspector General may assist another agency of the State in
22 investigating reports of the abuse, neglect, or abuse and
23 neglect of persons with mental illness, persons with
24 developmental disabilities, or persons with both. To comply
25 with the requirements of subsection (k) of this Section, the
26 Inspector General shall also review all reportable deaths for

1 which there is no allegation of abuse or neglect. Nothing in
2 this Section shall preempt any duties of the Medical Review
3 Board set forth in the Mental Health and Developmental
4 Disabilities Code. The Inspector General shall have no
5 authority to investigate alleged violations of the State
6 Officials and Employees Ethics Act. Allegations of misconduct
7 under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act shall be
8 referred to the Office of the Governor's Executive Inspector
9 General for investigation.

10 (f) Limitations. The Inspector General shall not conduct an
11 investigation within an agency or facility if that
12 investigation would be redundant to or interfere with an
13 investigation conducted by another State agency. The Inspector
14 General shall have no supervision over, or involvement in, the
15 routine programmatic, licensing, funding, or certification
16 operations of the Department. Nothing in this subsection limits
17 investigations by the Department that may otherwise be required
18 by law or that may be necessary in the Department's capacity as
19 central administrative authority responsible for the operation
20 of the State's mental health and developmental disabilities
21 facilities.

22 (g) Rulemaking authority. The Inspector General shall
23 promulgate rules establishing minimum requirements for
24 reporting allegations as well as for initiating, conducting,
25 and completing investigations based upon the nature of the
26 allegation or allegations. The rules shall clearly establish

1 that if 2 or more State agencies could investigate an
2 allegation, the Inspector General shall not conduct an
3 investigation that would be redundant to, or interfere with, an
4 investigation conducted by another State agency. The rules
5 shall further clarify the method and circumstances under which
6 the Office of Inspector General may interact with the
7 licensing, funding, or certification units of the Department in
8 preventing further occurrences of mental abuse, physical
9 abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, egregious neglect, and financial
10 exploitation.

11 (h) Training programs. The Inspector General shall (i)
12 establish a comprehensive program to ensure that every person
13 authorized to conduct investigations receives ongoing training
14 relative to investigation techniques, communication skills,
15 and the appropriate means of interacting with persons receiving
16 treatment for mental illness, developmental disability, or
17 both mental illness and developmental disability, and (ii)
18 establish and conduct periodic training programs for facility
19 and agency employees concerning the prevention and reporting of
20 any one or more of the following: mental abuse, physical abuse,
21 sexual abuse, neglect, egregious neglect, or financial
22 exploitation. Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to
23 prevent the Office of Inspector General from conducting any
24 other training as determined by the Inspector General to be
25 necessary or helpful.

26 (i) Duty to cooperate.

1 (1) The Inspector General shall at all times be granted
2 access to any facility or agency for the purpose of
3 investigating any allegation, conducting unannounced site
4 visits, monitoring compliance with a written response, or
5 completing any other statutorily assigned duty. The
6 Inspector General shall conduct unannounced site visits to
7 each facility at least annually for the purpose of
8 reviewing and making recommendations on systemic issues
9 relative to preventing, reporting, investigating, and
10 responding to all of the following: mental abuse, physical
11 abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, egregious neglect, or
12 financial exploitation.

13 (2) Any employee who fails to cooperate with an Office
14 of the Inspector General investigation is in violation of
15 this Act. Failure to cooperate with an investigation
16 includes, but is not limited to, any one or more of the
17 following: (i) creating and transmitting a false report to
18 the Office of the Inspector General hotline, (ii) providing
19 false information to an Office of the Inspector General
20 Investigator during an investigation, (iii) colluding with
21 other employees to cover up evidence, (iv) colluding with
22 other employees to provide false information to an Office
23 of the Inspector General investigator, (v) destroying
24 evidence, (vi) withholding evidence, or (vii) otherwise
25 obstructing an Office of the Inspector General
26 investigation. Additionally, any employee who, during an

1 unannounced site visit or written response compliance
2 check, fails to cooperate with requests from the Office of
3 the Inspector General is in violation of this Act.

4 (j) Subpoena powers. The Inspector General shall have the
5 power to subpoena witnesses and compel the production of all
6 documents and physical evidence relating to his or her
7 investigations and any hearings authorized by this Act. This
8 subpoena power shall not extend to persons or documents of a
9 labor organization or its representatives insofar as the
10 persons are acting in a representative capacity to an employee
11 whose conduct is the subject of an investigation or the
12 documents relate to that representation. Any person who
13 otherwise fails to respond to a subpoena or who knowingly
14 provides false information to the Office of the Inspector
15 General by subpoena during an investigation is guilty of a
16 Class A misdemeanor.

17 (k) Reporting allegations and deaths.

18 (1) Allegations. If an employee witnesses, is told of,
19 or has reason to believe an incident of mental abuse,
20 physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or financial
21 exploitation has occurred, the employee, agency, or
22 facility shall report the allegation by phone to the Office
23 of the Inspector General hotline according to the agency's
24 or facility's procedures, but in no event later than 4
25 hours after the initial discovery of the incident,
26 allegation, or suspicion of any one or more of the

1 following: mental abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse,
2 neglect, or financial exploitation. A required reporter as
3 defined in subsection (b) of this Section who knowingly or
4 intentionally fails to comply with these reporting
5 requirements is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

6 (2) Deaths. Absent an allegation, a required reporter
7 shall, within 24 hours after initial discovery, report by
8 phone to the Office of the Inspector General hotline each
9 of the following:

10 (i) Any death of an individual occurring within 14
11 calendar days after discharge or transfer of the
12 individual from a residential program or facility.

13 (ii) Any death of an individual occurring within 24
14 hours after deflection from a residential program or
15 facility.

16 (iii) Any other death of an individual occurring at
17 an agency or facility or at any Department-funded site.

18 (3) Retaliation. It is a violation of this Act for any
19 employee or administrator of an agency or facility to take
20 retaliatory action against an employee who acts in good
21 faith in conformance with his or her duties as a required
22 reporter.

23 (1) Reporting to law enforcement.

24 (1) Reporting criminal acts. Within 24 hours after
25 determining that there is credible evidence indicating
26 that a criminal act may have been committed or that special

1 expertise may be required in an investigation, the
2 Inspector General shall notify the Department of State
3 Police or other appropriate law enforcement authority, or
4 ensure that such notification is made. The Department of
5 State Police shall investigate any report from a
6 State-operated facility indicating a possible murder,
7 sexual assault, or other felony by an employee. All
8 investigations conducted by the Inspector General shall be
9 conducted in a manner designed to ensure the preservation
10 of evidence for possible use in a criminal prosecution.

11 (2) Reporting allegations of adult students with
12 disabilities. Upon receipt of a reportable allegation
13 regarding an adult student with a disability, the
14 Department's Office of the Inspector General shall
15 determine whether the allegation meets the criteria for the
16 Domestic Abuse Program under the Abuse of Adults with
17 Disabilities Intervention Act. If the allegation is
18 reportable to that program, the Office of the Inspector
19 General shall initiate an investigation. If the allegation
20 is not reportable to the Domestic Abuse Program, the Office
21 of the Inspector General shall make an expeditious referral
22 to the respective law enforcement entity. If the alleged
23 victim is already receiving services from the Department,
24 the Office of the Inspector General shall also make a
25 referral to the respective Department of Human Services'
26 Division or Bureau.

1 (m) Investigative reports. Upon completion of an
2 investigation, the Office of Inspector General shall issue an
3 investigative report identifying whether the allegations are
4 substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unfounded. Within 10
5 business days after the transmittal of a completed
6 investigative report substantiating an allegation, finding an
7 allegation is unsubstantiated, or if a recommendation is made,
8 the Inspector General shall provide the investigative report on
9 the case to the Secretary and to the director of the facility
10 or agency where any one or more of the following occurred:
11 mental abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, egregious
12 neglect, or financial exploitation. The director of the
13 facility or agency shall be responsible for maintaining the
14 confidentiality of the investigative report consistent with
15 State and federal law. In a substantiated case, the
16 investigative report shall include any mitigating or
17 aggravating circumstances that were identified during the
18 investigation. If the case involves substantiated neglect, the
19 investigative report shall also state whether egregious
20 neglect was found. An investigative report may also set forth
21 recommendations. All investigative reports prepared by the
22 Office of the Inspector General shall be considered
23 confidential and shall not be released except as provided by
24 the law of this State or as required under applicable federal
25 law. Unsubstantiated and unfounded reports shall not be
26 disclosed except as allowed under Section 6 of the Abused and

1 Neglected Long Term Care Facility Residents Reporting Act. Raw
2 data used to compile the investigative report shall not be
3 subject to release unless required by law or a court order.
4 "Raw data used to compile the investigative report" includes,
5 but is not limited to, any one or more of the following: the
6 initial complaint, witness statements, photographs,
7 investigator's notes, police reports, or incident reports. If
8 the allegations are substantiated, the accused shall be
9 provided with a redacted copy of the investigative report.
10 Death reports where there was no allegation of abuse or neglect
11 shall only be released pursuant to applicable State or federal
12 law or a valid court order.

13 (n) Written responses, clarification requests, and
14 reconsideration requests.

15 (1) Written responses. Within 30 calendar days from
16 receipt of a substantiated investigative report or an
17 investigative report which contains recommendations,
18 absent a reconsideration request, the facility or agency
19 shall file a written response that addresses, in a concise
20 and reasoned manner, the actions taken to: (i) protect the
21 individual; (ii) prevent recurrences; and (iii) eliminate
22 the problems identified. The response shall include the
23 implementation and completion dates of such actions. If the
24 written response is not filed within the allotted 30
25 calendar day period, the Secretary shall determine the
26 appropriate corrective action to be taken.

1 (2) Requests for clarification. ~~Reconsideration~~
2 ~~requests.~~ The facility, agency, victim or guardian, or the
3 subject employee may request that the Office of Inspector
4 General ~~reconsider or~~ clarify the finding or findings for
5 which clarification is sought. ~~its finding based upon~~
6 ~~additional information.~~

7 (3) Requests for reconsideration. The facility,
8 agency, victim or guardian, or the subject employee may
9 request that the Office of the Inspector General reconsider
10 the finding or findings or the recommendations. A request
11 for reconsideration shall be subject to a multi-layer
12 review and shall include at least one reviewer who did not
13 participate in the investigation or approval of the
14 original investigative report. After the multi-layer
15 review process has been completed, the Inspector General
16 shall make the final determination on the reconsideration
17 request. The investigation shall be reopened if the
18 reconsideration determination finds that additional
19 information is needed to complete the investigative
20 record.

21 (o) Disclosure of the finding by the Inspector General. The
22 Inspector General shall disclose the finding of an
23 investigation to the following persons: (i) the Governor, (ii)
24 the Secretary, (iii) the director of the facility or agency,
25 (iv) the alleged victims and their guardians, (v) the
26 complainant, and (vi) the accused. This information shall

1 include whether the allegations were deemed substantiated,
2 unsubstantiated, or unfounded.

3 (p) Secretary review. Upon review of the Inspector
4 General's investigative report and any agency's or facility's
5 written response, the Secretary shall accept or reject the
6 written response and notify the Inspector General of that
7 determination. The Secretary may further direct that other
8 administrative action be taken, including, but not limited to,
9 any one or more of the following: (i) additional site visits,
10 (ii) training, (iii) provision of technical assistance
11 relative to administrative needs, licensure or certification,
12 or (iv) the imposition of appropriate sanctions.

13 (q) Action by facility or agency. Within 30 days of the
14 date the Secretary approves the written response or directs
15 that further administrative action be taken, the facility or
16 agency shall provide an implementation report to the Inspector
17 General that provides the status of the action taken. The
18 facility or agency shall be allowed an additional 30 days to
19 send notice of completion of the action or to send an updated
20 implementation report. If the action has not been completed
21 within the additional 30-day ~~30-day~~ period, the facility or
22 agency shall send updated implementation reports every 60 days
23 until completion. The Inspector General shall conduct a review
24 of any implementation plan that takes more than 120 days after
25 approval to complete, and shall monitor compliance through a
26 random review of approved written responses, which may include,

1 but are not limited to: (i) site visits, (ii) telephone
2 contact, and (iii) requests for additional documentation
3 evidencing compliance.

4 (r) Sanctions. Sanctions, if imposed by the Secretary under
5 Subdivision (p)(iv) of this Section, shall be designed to
6 prevent further acts of mental abuse, physical abuse, sexual
7 abuse, neglect, egregious neglect, or financial exploitation
8 or some combination of one or more of those acts at a facility
9 or agency, and may include any one or more of the following:

10 (1) Appointment of on-site monitors.

11 (2) Transfer or relocation of an individual or
12 individuals.

13 (3) Closure of units.

14 (4) Termination of any one or more of the following:

15 (i) Department licensing, (ii) funding, or (iii)
16 certification.

17 The Inspector General may seek the assistance of the
18 Illinois Attorney General or the office of any State's Attorney
19 in implementing sanctions.

20 (s) Health Care Worker Registry.

21 (1) Reporting to the Registry. The Inspector General
22 shall report to the Department of Public Health's Health
23 Care Worker Registry, a public registry, the identity and
24 finding of each employee of a facility or agency against
25 whom there is a final investigative report containing a
26 substantiated allegation of physical or sexual abuse,

1 financial exploitation, or egregious neglect of an
2 individual.

3 (2) Notice to employee. Prior to reporting the name of
4 an employee, the employee shall be notified of the
5 Department's obligation to report and shall be granted an
6 opportunity to request an administrative hearing, the sole
7 purpose of which is to determine if the substantiated
8 finding warrants reporting to the Registry. Notice to the
9 employee shall contain a clear and concise statement of the
10 grounds on which the report to the Registry is based, offer
11 the employee an opportunity for a hearing, and identify the
12 process for requesting such a hearing. Notice is sufficient
13 if provided by certified mail to the employee's last known
14 address. If the employee fails to request a hearing within
15 30 days from the date of the notice, the Inspector General
16 shall report the name of the employee to the Registry.
17 Nothing in this subdivision (s) (2) shall diminish or impair
18 the rights of a person who is a member of a collective
19 bargaining unit under the Illinois Public Labor Relations
20 Act or under any other federal labor statute.

21 (3) Registry hearings. If the employee requests an
22 administrative hearing, the employee shall be granted an
23 opportunity to appear before an administrative law judge to
24 present reasons why the employee's name should not be
25 reported to the Registry. The Department shall bear the
26 burden of presenting evidence that establishes, by a

1 preponderance of the evidence, that the substantiated
2 finding warrants reporting to the Registry. After
3 considering all the evidence presented, the administrative
4 law judge shall make a recommendation to the Secretary as
5 to whether the substantiated finding warrants reporting
6 the name of the employee to the Registry. The Secretary
7 shall render the final decision. The Department and the
8 employee shall have the right to request that the
9 administrative law judge consider a stipulated disposition
10 of these proceedings.

11 (4) Testimony at Registry hearings. A person who makes
12 a report or who investigates a report under this Act shall
13 testify fully in any judicial proceeding resulting from
14 such a report, as to any evidence of abuse or neglect, or
15 the cause thereof. No evidence shall be excluded by reason
16 of any common law or statutory privilege relating to
17 communications between the alleged perpetrator of abuse or
18 neglect, or the individual alleged as the victim in the
19 report, and the person making or investigating the report.
20 Testimony at hearings is exempt from the confidentiality
21 requirements of subsection (f) of Section 10 of the Mental
22 Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act.

23 (5) Employee's rights to collateral action. No
24 reporting to the Registry shall occur and no hearing shall
25 be set or proceed if an employee notifies the Inspector
26 General in writing, including any supporting

1 documentation, that he or she is formally contesting an
2 adverse employment action resulting from a substantiated
3 finding by complaint filed with the Illinois Civil Service
4 Commission, or which otherwise seeks to enforce the
5 employee's rights pursuant to any applicable collective
6 bargaining agreement. If an action taken by an employer
7 against an employee as a result of a finding of physical
8 abuse, sexual abuse, or egregious neglect is overturned
9 through an action filed with the Illinois Civil Service
10 Commission or under any applicable collective bargaining
11 agreement and if that employee's name has already been sent
12 to the Registry, the employee's name shall be removed from
13 the Registry.

14 (6) Removal from Registry. At any time after the report
15 to the Registry, but no more than once in any 12-month
16 period, an employee may petition the Department in writing
17 to remove his or her name from the Registry. Upon receiving
18 notice of such request, the Inspector General shall conduct
19 an investigation into the petition. Upon receipt of such
20 request, an administrative hearing will be set by the
21 Department. At the hearing, the employee shall bear the
22 burden of presenting evidence that establishes, by a
23 preponderance of the evidence, that removal of the name
24 from the Registry is in the public interest. The parties
25 may jointly request that the administrative law judge
26 consider a stipulated disposition of these proceedings.

1 (t) Review of Administrative Decisions. The Department
2 shall preserve a record of all proceedings at any formal
3 hearing conducted by the Department involving Health Care
4 Worker Registry hearings. Final administrative decisions of
5 the Department are subject to judicial review pursuant to
6 provisions of the Administrative Review Law.

7 (u) Quality Care Board. There is created, within the Office
8 of the Inspector General, a Quality Care Board to be composed
9 of 7 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and
10 consent of the Senate. One of the members shall be designated
11 as chairman by the Governor. Of the initial appointments made
12 by the Governor, 4 Board members shall each be appointed for a
13 term of 4 years and 3 members shall each be appointed for a
14 term of 2 years. Upon the expiration of each member's term, a
15 successor shall be appointed for a term of 4 years. In the case
16 of a vacancy in the office of any member, the Governor shall
17 appoint a successor for the remainder of the unexpired term.

18 Members appointed by the Governor shall be qualified by
19 professional knowledge or experience in the area of law,
20 investigatory techniques, or in the area of care of the
21 mentally ill or care of persons with developmental
22 disabilities. Two members appointed by the Governor shall be
23 persons with a disability or a parent of a person with a
24 disability. Members shall serve without compensation, but
25 shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with
26 the performance of their duties as members.

1 The Board shall meet quarterly, and may hold other meetings
2 on the call of the chairman. Four members shall constitute a
3 quorum allowing the Board to conduct its business. The Board
4 may adopt rules and regulations it deems necessary to govern
5 its own procedures.

6 The Board shall monitor and oversee the operations,
7 policies, and procedures of the Inspector General to ensure the
8 prompt and thorough investigation of allegations of neglect and
9 abuse. In fulfilling these responsibilities, the Board may do
10 the following:

11 (1) Provide independent, expert consultation to the
12 Inspector General on policies and protocols for
13 investigations of alleged abuse, neglect, or both abuse and
14 neglect.

15 (2) Review existing regulations relating to the
16 operation of facilities.

17 (3) Advise the Inspector General as to the content of
18 training activities authorized under this Section.

19 (4) Recommend policies concerning methods for
20 improving the intergovernmental relationships between the
21 Office of the Inspector General and other State or federal
22 offices.

23 (v) Annual report. The Inspector General shall provide to
24 the General Assembly and the Governor, no later than January 1
25 of each year, a summary of reports and investigations made
26 under this Act for the prior fiscal year with respect to

1 individuals receiving mental health or developmental
2 disabilities services. The report shall detail the imposition
3 of sanctions, if any, and the final disposition of any
4 corrective or administrative action directed by the Secretary.
5 The summaries shall not contain any confidential or identifying
6 information of any individual, but shall include objective data
7 identifying any trends in the number of reported allegations,
8 the timeliness of the Office of the Inspector General's
9 investigations, and their disposition, for each facility and
10 Department-wide, for the most recent 3-year time period. The
11 report shall also identify, by facility, the staff-to-patient
12 ratios taking account of direct care staff only. The report
13 shall also include detailed recommended administrative actions
14 and matters for consideration by the General Assembly.

15 (w) Program audit. The Auditor General shall conduct a
16 program audit of the Office of the Inspector General on an
17 as-needed basis, as determined by the Auditor General. The
18 audit shall specifically include the Inspector General's
19 compliance with the Act and effectiveness in investigating
20 reports of allegations occurring in any facility or agency. The
21 Auditor General shall conduct the program audit according to
22 the provisions of the Illinois State Auditing Act and shall
23 report its findings to the General Assembly no later than
24 January 1 following the audit period.

25 (x) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to mean that
26 an individual is a victim of abuse or neglect because of health

1 care services appropriately provided or not provided by health
2 care professionals.

3 (y) Nothing in this Section shall require a facility,
4 including its employees, agents, medical staff members, and
5 health care professionals, to provide a service to an
6 individual in contravention of that individual's stated or
7 implied objection to the provision of that service on the
8 ground that that service conflicts with the individual's
9 religious beliefs or practices, nor shall the failure to
10 provide a service to an individual be considered abuse under
11 this Section if the individual has objected to the provision of
12 that service based on his or her religious beliefs or
13 practices.

14 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; 99-323, eff. 8-7-15;
15 99-642, eff. 7-28-16; 100-313, eff. 8-24-17; 100-432, eff.
16 8-25-17; revised 9-27-17.)