

SB 380

**Maryland Office of the Inspector
General for General Services**

Senator Clarence Lam

Department of General Services Background

- Primary State procurement agency
 - \$1 billion in contract administration
 - Manages and leases over 10 million sq. ft of office space
- Provide full spectrum of:
 - Design, construction, facilities operations, security, real estate, and surplus property services
- Many services vital to health and safety of Marylanders



Addressing the Accountability Gap

- The extensive role served by DGS warrants independent oversight
- OLA is unable to conduct continuous oversight for a citizen legislature
- Unlike the Departments of Health and Education, there is no dedicated OIG for DGS



SB 380 - Establishing Independent DGS Oversight

- Establishes an Independent OIG for DGS
 - 6 positions authorized
 - Maintain physical presence at DGS
- Investigate fraud and abuse
 - Secure sworn testimony & subpoena
 - Coordinate referrals to law enforcement
- IG will serve 5-year term
 - Unanimous appointment by Governor, Treasurer, and Attorney General
 - Advice and consent of the Senate
 - Affidavit refusal to accept or run for other office
 - While serving and for 3 years after



Lessons Learned from the Pandemic

- COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted need for better state oversight
 - Faulty test-kits
 - Undelivered PPE
 - Broken unemployment insurance infrastructure
- Lack of dedicated DGS oversight office lends risk to fraud and abuse
 - Competitive pandemic procurement market
 - Unvetted politically connected vendors

