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Patrick Moran - President

Testimony HB 393 – Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Health Health & Government Operations January 19, 2021 Support

AFSCME Council 3 supports HB 393. This legislation would create the Maryland Office of the Inspector General (IG) for Health, an independent unit of the state charged with keeping track of the Health Department's activities, investigating waste, fraud and abuse, regulatory changes, and various other tasks.

AFSCME Council 3 represents many employees within the Maryland Department of Health. These employees are on the frontlines, with intimate knowledge of how individual facilities are run. While it's very important to enable an IG to root out waste and fraud when it comes to payment of services, it is equally important to investigate, analyze and provide direction to the agency on issues involving personnel and internal resources. An IG's ability to provide oversight and guidance on procurement and human resources can enable a more effective delivery of services by staff and providers to those they serve.

AFSCME Council 3 asks for a favorable report of this legislation.

Every AFSCME Maryland State and University contract guarantees a right to union representation. An employee has the right to a union representative if requested by the employee. 800.492.1996