

HB1064_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
03/10/2026
Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703-7134

**TESTIMONY ON HB#1064 - POSITION: FAVORABLE
Maryland Office of the Inspector General - Establishment**

TO: Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and members of the Government, Labor and Elections Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1064, **Maryland Office of the Inspector General – Establishment**

This bill establishes the Maryland Office of the Inspector General; transfers the Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Education and the Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Health to be within the Maryland Office of the Inspector General; provides for the appointment, qualifications, salary, and term of office of the Inspector General; provides for the employment of certain staff by the Inspector General; establishes provisions related to the powers and duties of the Inspector General; requires certain units to cooperate fully with the Inspector General in certain investigations, audits, and reviews; protects certain records prepared or obtained by the Inspector General from disclosure under the Public Information Act; extends certain whistleblower protections to certain State employees who make a complaint or provide information to the Inspector General or staff of the Office; authorizes the Governor to transfer certain positions and funds to the Office; provides certain protections for employees who are transferred to the Office; and generally relates to the Maryland Office of the Inspector General.

This bill adds significant protections to any individual involved in education and health within Maryland and makes those protections subject to an Inspector General and their staff for investigation of situations requiring their involvement.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1064.