

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6052

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 19 (legislative day, MAY 17), 2022

Received

AN ACT

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to require the employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive training developed by the Inspector General of the Department on reporting wrongdoing to, responding to requests from, and cooperating with the Office of Inspector General, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Department of Vet-
5 erans Affairs Office of Inspector General Training Act of
6 2021”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EMPLOYEE**
8 **TRAINING REGARDING OFFICE OF INSPEC-**
9 **TOR GENERAL.**

10 (a) TRAINING.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
11 shall require each employee of the Department of Veterans
12 Affairs to receive training that the Inspector General of
13 the Department shall develop on the reporting of wrong-
14 doing to, responding to requests from, and cooperating
15 with the Office of Inspector General.

16 (b) EMPLOYEES.—In carrying out subsection (a), the
17 Secretary shall require—

- 18 (1) each employee of the Department who was
19 employed by the Department on the day before the
20 date of the enactment of this Act undergo the train-
21 ing required by subsection (a) not later than one
22 year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and
23 (2) each employee of the Department who be-
24 gins employment with the Department on or after
25 the date of the enactment of this Act undergo the

1 training required by subsection (a) not later than
2 one year after the date on which the employment be-
3 gins.

4 (c) ELEMENTS.—Training developed and required
5 under subsection (a) shall include the following:

6 (1) Definition of the role, responsibilities, and
7 legal authority of the Inspector General of the De-
8 partment and the duties of employees of the Depart-
9 ment for engaging with the Office of the Inspector
10 General.

11 (2) Identification of the circumstances and
12 mechanisms for reporting fraud, waste, abuse, and
13 other wrongdoing to the Inspector General, including
14 making confidential complaints to the Inspector
15 General.

16 (3) Identification of the prohibitions and rem-
17 edies that help to protect Department employees
18 from retaliation when reporting wrongdoing to the
19 Inspector General.

20 (4) Recognition of opportunities to engage with
21 staff of the Office of the Inspector General to im-
22 prove Department programs, operations, and serv-
23 ices.

24 (d) DESIGN AND UPDATE.—The Inspector General of
25 the Department shall design, and update as the Inspector

1 General considers appropriate, the training developed and
2 required by subsection (a).

3 (e) SYSTEM.—The Secretary shall provide, via the
4 talent management system of the Department, or suc-
5 cessor system, the training developed and required under
6 subsection (a).

7 (f) RELATION TO CERTAIN TRAINING.—The Sec-
8 retary shall ensure that training developed and required
9 under subsection (a) is separate and distinct from training
10 provided under section 733 of title 38, United States
11 Code.

12 (g) NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary shall
13 ensure that the Inspector General is afforded the oppor-
14 tunity, not less frequently than twice each year and as
15 frequently as the Inspector General considers appropriate
16 under extraordinary circumstances, to use the electronic
17 mail system of the Department to notify all authorized
18 users of such system of the following:

19 (1) The roles and responsibilities of the employ-
20 ees of the Department when engaging with the Of-
21 fice of the Inspector General.

22 (2) The availability of training provided under
23 subsection (a).

24 (3) How to access training provided under sub-
25 section (a).

(4) Information about how to contact the Office of the Inspector General, including a link to any website-based reporting form of the Office.

Passed the House of Representatives May 18, 2022.

Attest: **CHERYL L. JOHNSON,**
Clerk.