Recognizing the accomplishments of Inspectors General since their creation in 1978 in preventing and detecting waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, and in promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the Federal Government.

Whereas the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) was signed into law on October 12, 1978, with overwhelming bipartisan support;

Whereas Inspectors General now exist in the 27 largest executive agencies and in 30 other designated Federal entities;

Whereas Inspectors General serve the American taxpayer by promoting economy, efficiency, effectiveness and integrity in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General conduct and supervise audits and investigations to both prevent and detect waste, fraud and abuse in the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General make Congress and agency heads aware, through semiannual reports and other activities, of problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General work with Congress and agency heads to recommend policies to promote economy and efficiency in the administration of, or preventing and detecting waste, fraud and abuse in, the programs and operations of the Federal Government;

Whereas Inspectors General receive and investigate information from Federal employees and other dedicated citizens regarding the possible existence of an activity constituting a violation of law, rules, or regulations, or mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority or a substantial and specific danger to public health and safety;

Whereas Inspector General actions result in, on a yearly basis, recommendations for several billions of dollars to be spent more effectively; thousands of successful criminal prosecutions; hundreds of millions of dollars returned to the United States Treasury through investigative recoveries; and the suspension and disbarment of thousands of individuals or entities from doing business with the Government; and

Whereas for 20 years the Offices of Inspectors General have worked with Congress to facilitate the exercise of effective legislative oversight to improve the programs and operations of the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress—
(1) recognizes the many accomplishments of the Offices of Inspectors General in preventing and detecting waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government;

(2) commends the Offices of Inspectors General and their employees for the dedication and professionalism displayed in the performance of their duties; and

(3) reaffirms the role of Inspectors General in promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government.

Approved November 2, 1998.