



(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend chapter 4 of title 5, United States Code, to establish a for-cause removal standard for Inspectors General, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CONNOLLY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend chapter 4 of title 5, United States Code, to establish a for-cause removal standard for Inspectors 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 “Protect Our Watch-
5 dogs Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. FOR CAUSE REMOVAL STANDARD FOR INSPECTORS**

2 **GENERAL.**

3 Chapter 4 of title 5, United States Code, is amend-
4 ed—

5 (1) in section 403(b)—

6 (A) by striking “(b) REMOVAL OR TRANS-
7 FER.—” and inserting:

8 “(b) REMOVAL OR TRANSFER.—

9 “(1)(A) An”;

10 (B) in subparagraph (A), as so designated,
11 by inserting after “by the President” the fol-
12 lowing: “in accordance with paragraph (3)”;
13 and

14 (C) by inserting at the end the following:

15 “(3) The President may remove an Inspector
16 General only for any of the following grounds (and
17 the documentation of any such ground shall be in-
18 cluded in the communication required pursuant to
19 paragraph (1)):

20 “(A) Documented permanent incapacity.

21 “(B) Documented neglect of duty.

22 “(C) Documented malfeasance.

23 “(D) Documented conviction of a felony or
24 conduct involving moral turpitude.

25 “(E) Documented knowing violation of a
26 law or regulation.

1 “(F) Documented gross mismanagement.

2 “(G) Documented gross waste of funds.

3 “(H) Documented abuse of authority.

4 “(I) Documented inefficiency.”; and

5 (2) in section 415(e)(2)—

6 (A) by striking “TRANSFERRED.—If” and

7 inserting the following: “TRANSFERRED.—

8 “(A) If”; and

9 (B) in subparagraph (A), as so designated,

10 by adding at the end the following: “An Inspec-

11 tor General may be removed only for any of the

12 following grounds (and the documentation of

13 any such ground shall be included in the com-

14 munication required pursuant to this para-

15 graph):

16 “(i) Documented permanent inca-

17 pacity.

18 “(ii) Documented neglect of duty.

19 “(iii) Documented malfeasance.

20 “(iv) Documented conviction of a fel-

21 ony or conduct involving moral turpitude.

22 “(v) Documented knowing violation of

23 a law or regulation.

24 “(vi) Documented gross mismanage-

25 ment.

- 1 “(vii) Documented gross waste of
- 2 funds.
- 3 “(viii) Documented abuse of author-
- 4 ity.
- 5 “(ix) Documented inefficiency.”.