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## Federal Inspector General Community Supports Establishment of Congressional Inspector General Caucus

The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) supported the establishment of an Inspector General (IG) Caucus in the U.S. Senate and pledged to work with congressional leaders to further IG efforts to conduct effective oversight of Federal programs and operations and improve government efficiency.

U.S. Senator Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) announced this week that she is leading a <u>bipartisan effort to launch the IG Caucus</u> to support IG efforts to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal programs and operations. Joining Senator Ernst in launching the caucus are Senators Maggie Hassan (D-New Hampshire), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Gary Peters (D-Michigan), James Lankford (R-Oklahoma), and Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut).

"IGs remain committed to providing independent, objective, and effective oversight of Federal programs and operations. Last year alone, the IG community identified savings to Federal programs totaling over \$93 billion," said the Honorable Hannibal "Mike" Ware, CIGIE Chairperson, IG for the Small Business Administration, and Acting IG for the Social Security Administration. "The Federal IG community looks forward to working with the bipartisan IG Caucus and congressional leaders to enhance efforts to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse, improve government efficiency, and deliver for the American public."

A congressional caucus is a group of members of the U.S. Congress that meets to pursue common legislative objectives. The IG Caucus will provide CIGIE and the Federal IG community the opportunity to collaborate with congressional leaders on legislative priorities, oversight initiatives, and IG-specific issues.

CIGIE Chairperson Ware commended past CIGIE Chairperson Mark Lee Greenblatt, Inspector General for the U.S. Department of the Interior, for envisioning an IG Caucus during his CIGIE leadership tenure and championing the concept with congressional leaders.

"Congress is a key stakeholder for the IG community, so Vice Chairperson Tammy Hull and I advocated for the creation of an IG Caucus," said IG Greenblatt. "We are thrilled that Senator Ernst has formed the bipartisan Senate Inspector General Caucus and excited to work with her and the Caucus co-chairs to ensure that the government delivers for the American people."

The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) is an independent entity established within the executive branch to address integrity, economy and effectiveness issues that transcend individual government agencies and aid in the establishment of a professional, well-trained and highly skilled workforce in the Offices of Inspectors General. For more information about CIGIE and the Inspector General community, please visit https://www.ignet.gov/. To find and read reports from the federal Inspectors General, please visit https://oversight.gov and follow @OversightGov on X (Twitter). For information on actions by Inspectors General concerning the pandemic visit https://www.pandemicoversight.gov/.