



Council of the
INSPECTORS GENERAL
on INTEGRITY and EFFICIENCY

July 10, 2009

The Honorable Joseph Lieberman
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: S. 976 – Amending Provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act

Dear Chairman Lieberman:

As Chair of the Legislation Committee of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), I am writing to convey the support of the Inspector General (IG) community for S. 976. This legislation would exempt from the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) information collected during the conduct of any investigation, audit, inspection, evaluation, or other review conducted by a Federal Office of Inspector General. S. 976, as introduced by Senator Grassley, has fully addressed the concerns of the IG community expressed in previous correspondence.

S. 976 will exempt the IGs from the PRA's burdensome and intrusive requirements thereby ensuring that the independence of IGs is not compromised while collecting information during the conduct of an investigation, audit, inspection, evaluation. In turn, information surveys and data collection tools will be more readily available to IGs in their efforts to deter and detect waste, fraud and abuse. Given the increased oversight requirements over stimulus funding, these tools are becoming increasingly important.

We are pleased with the introduction of S. 976 by Senator Grassley, and stand ready to help move this legislation forward in order to improve the operations of the IG community. We are also conveying our comments to Ranking Member Collins. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or for additional information.

Sincerely,

J. Anthony Ogden
Inspector General
United States Government Printing Office

Chair, Legislation Committee
Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

c: The Honorable Charles Grassley