
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Inspector General or Deputy Inspector General as a peace officer

- Provides that the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General may not receive an original appointment on a permanent basis unless the person has received a certificate from the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission attesting to the person's satisfactory completion of an approved peace officer basic training program.
- Grants the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General the same arrest authority as a peace officer while engaged in the scope of the Inspector General's or a deputy Inspector General's duties.
- Grants the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General the power and authority of a peace officer.
- Adds the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General to the definition of "peace officer" while engaged in the scope of the Inspector General's or a deputy Inspector General's duties.

Deputy inspector general qualifications

- Expands the qualifications for appointment as Inspector General or deputy inspector general to include individuals with at least five years of experience as a deputy inspector general in Ohio or any other state.

Inspector General or Deputy Inspector General as a peace officer Peace officer basic training program

(R.C. 109.77 and 121.483)

The bill provides that the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General may not receive an original appointment on a permanent basis unless the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General has been awarded a certificate by the Executive Director of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission attesting to the person's satisfactory completion of an approved state, county, municipal, or Department of Natural Resources peace officer basic training program.

Arrest authority

(R.C. 121.483)

The bill grants the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General described above the same arrest authority as a peace officer. The Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General may exercise this arrest authority only while engaged in the scope of the Inspector General's or a deputy Inspector General's duties.

Definition of peace officer

(R.C. 109.71 and 2935.01)

The bill adds the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General to the definition of “peace officer” while engaged in the scope of the Inspector General’s or deputy Inspector General’s duties. This inclusion grants the Inspector General or a deputy Inspector General the power and authority of a peace officer.

Deputy inspector general qualifications

(R.C. 121.49)

The bill expands the qualifications to become Inspector General or a deputy inspector general in Ohio. It permits an individual with at least five years of experience as a deputy inspector general in Ohio or another state to become Inspector General, and permits an individual with at least five years of experience as a deputy inspector general in another state to become a deputy inspector general in Ohio. Current law requires deputy inspector generals of transportation and workers compensation to meet the same qualifications as the Inspector General.⁴³

Under continuing law, the Governor appoints, with the advice and consent of the Senate, the Inspector General every four years.⁴⁴ An individual is eligible to be appointed if the individual meets one or more of the following qualifications: at least five years’ experience as a law enforcement officer in Ohio or any other state, admission to the bar of Ohio or any other state, certification as a certified public accountant in Ohio or any other state, or at least five years’ service as the comptroller or similar officer of a public or private entity in Ohio or any other state.

⁴³ See R. C. 121.51 and 121.52, neither in the bill.

⁴⁴ See R.C. 121.48, not in the bill.