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INSPECTOR GENERAL

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April 11, 2017

The Honorable Walter Timilty, Chair  
Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight  
State House, Room 320  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Peter V. Kocot, Chair  
Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight  
State House, Room 22  
Boston, MA 02133

**Re: H. 16, An Act relative to Chapter 30B notification**

Dear Chairman Timilty and Chairman Kocot:

I write in support of House 16, *An Act relative to Chapter 30B notification*. The bill adds new protections for governmental bodies by mandating contractors to notify the Office of the Inspector General (“Office”) when they have credible evidence of certain legal violations or overpayments.

Specifically, the bill inserts a new subsection into Chapter 30B, the Uniform Procurement Law. Chapter 30B applies to contracts for supplies, services and real estate procured by certain governmental bodies, including municipalities and regional school districts. The bill would require a contractor to provide my Office with written notification when it has credible evidence that the contractor’s principal, agent, employee or subcontractor has committed a crime, violated the Massachusetts False Claims Act, or violated Chapter 30B in connection with its contract with the government. The language would also require a contractor to notify my Office if it receives a material overpayment.

In order to provide an enforcement mechanism, House 16 also adds language to Chapter 30B enabling my Office to suspend or debar a contractor if it knowingly fails to provide a

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required written notification. Before my Office issued a suspension or a debarment, the contractor would be granted an administrative hearing.

Mandating contractors to report such violations or overpayments provides governmental bodies with additional protections from the misuse of public dollars. It will also serve as a fraud deterrent.

I respectfully request the Committee report House 16 out favorably. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Glenn A. Cunha".

Glenn A. Cunha  
Inspector General