



SJ0048

LRB102 26307 JDS 36324 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On July 14, 2021, Legislative Inspector General  
3 Carol M. Pope announced her intent to resign her office; and

4 WHEREAS, Pursuant to the State Officials and Employees  
5 Ethics Act, a search committee consisting of four former  
6 judges or prosecutors was appointed by the legislative leaders  
7 to conduct a search for qualified candidates to replace the  
8 Legislative Inspector General and made recommendations to the  
9 Legislative Ethics Commission; and

10 WHEREAS, After multiple attempts, the Legislative Ethics  
11 Commission has been unable to agree on recommending a  
12 candidate or candidates to the General Assembly; and

13 WHEREAS, Carol M. Pope resigned from her position as  
14 Legislative Inspector General effective at the end of January  
15 31, 2022, creating a vacancy in the office; and

16 WHEREAS, The General Assembly is responsible for the  
17 appointment of a Legislative Inspector General, whom shall be  
18 selected solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated  
19 ability; and

20 WHEREAS, The Honorable Michael P. McCuskey is an

1 individual of high integrity and demonstrated ability who, as  
2 a former public defender and judge, has led an exemplary  
3 career of public service that more than qualifies him to serve  
4 as the next Legislative Inspector General; and

5 WHEREAS, A native of Peoria, Judge McCuskey was admitted  
6 to the Illinois bar in 1975 and has dedicated his professional  
7 life to work that has demonstrated his commitment to  
8 integrity, professionalism, and ethics; and

9 WHEREAS, After serving for over a decade as the chief  
10 public defender in Marshall County, Judge McCuskey was elected  
11 in 1988 as an Illinois circuit court judge for the Tenth  
12 Judicial Circuit; and

13 WHEREAS, Judge McCuskey was elected to the Illinois  
14 Appellate Court for the Third Judicial District in 1990, where  
15 he served until 1998; and

16 WHEREAS, Judge McCuskey was nominated for the United  
17 States District Court for the Central District of Illinois by  
18 President Bill Clinton and confirmed by a  
19 Republican-controlled United States Senate in 1998, serving as  
20 chief judge of the district from 2004 to 2012; and

21 WHEREAS, Upon retirement from the federal bench in 2014,

1 Judge McCuskey was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to  
2 serve again as a State circuit court judge for the Tenth  
3 Judicial District, a post that voters subsequently elected him  
4 to in 2016; and

5 WHEREAS, Judge McCuskey retired from the court in 2020;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Judge McCuskey served on the Illinois Supreme  
8 Court's Commission on Professionalism for nearly 15 years,  
9 first as a commissioner and then as an advisor until he  
10 retired; and

11 WHEREAS, Judge McCuskey currently serves on the Board of  
12 Directors of the Illinois Judges Association and formerly  
13 served as Chairman of the Illinois State University Board of  
14 Trustees; and

15 WHEREAS, Judge McCuskey's extensive experience,  
16 appointments, and professional activities overwhelmingly  
17 qualify him for the position of Legislative Inspector General,  
18 an office that necessitates both keen intellect and insight  
19 into the personal and professional motivations of persons  
20 acting in the public realm; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF  
2 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that we appoint the  
3 Honorable Michael P. McCuskey as Legislative Inspector General  
4 in accordance with subsection (b) of Section 25-10 of the  
5 State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, endorsing him  
6 wholeheartedly as surpassing all statutory requirements and in  
7 full confidence that his character and integrity will enhance  
8 the office of Legislative Inspector General and benefit the  
9 administration of the ethical foundation on which Illinois  
10 legislators and legislative employees operate; and be it  
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with subsection (b) of  
13 Section 25-10 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act,  
14 the appointment of Judge McCuskey takes effect upon the  
15 adoption of this joint resolution by the affirmative vote of  
16 three-fifths of the members elected to each house of the  
17 General Assembly, the certification of this joint resolution  
18 by the President of the Senate and by the Speaker of the House  
19 of Representatives, and the filing of this joint resolution  
20 with the Secretary of State; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That in accordance with subsection (b) of  
22 Section 25-10 of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act,  
23 the term of Legislative Inspector General McCuskey shall run  
24 through June 30, 2023; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That Legislative Inspector General McCuskey  
2 shall serve in a contractual capacity; and be it further

3           RESOLVED, That Legislative Inspector General McCuskey  
4 shall be compensated at the rate of \$275.00 per hour with a  
5 maximum compensation not to exceed \$200,000 per fiscal year;  
6 and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to  
8 the Honorable Michael P. McCuskey and the Legislative Ethics  
9 Commission.