

Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery (SIGPR)
Expedited Hiring Authority Act of 2020 (S. 3751)
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Background

The U.S. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 authorized the creation of the [Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery \(SIGPR\)](#), but failed to provide some authorities that would allow SIGPR to quickly staff a new office and begin conducting oversight. These authorities have historically been provided to the other Special Inspectors General via supplemental legislation after the authorization legislation is passed.

What the bill does

- **Provides Temporary Authorities** – The bill allows SIGPR to function as a “temporary organization” despite not meeting the definition. This allows SIGPR to bypass the normally lengthy competitive processes agencies are required to follow and quickly begin oversight functions. The bill grants the following authorities:
 - expedited hiring authority
 - expedited contracting authority for temporary services
 - the authority to request and accept of detailees from other agencies
 - the authority to accept volunteer services
- **Applies a Sunset Provision** – The temporary authorities are provided to SIGPR for:
 - 6 months after the passage of the legislation; **OR**
 - 6 months after the confirmation of the SIGPR; **whichever is greater.**
- **Allows Rehiring of Annuitants Without Penalty** – Allows SIGPR to “re-hire” individuals who have retired and are receiving a government pension. These annuitants would be allowed to receive their full retirement paycheck and a full paycheck from SIGPR for their work. This gives experienced retirees an incentive to consider working for SIGPR. Many stakeholders have reported that this authority is instrumental in quickly hiring trained and experienced personnel and the timely closing the organization. In practice, annuitants often remain until the final days of the organization while other career personnel look for new positions.

Endorsements

- Project on Government Oversight
- Taxpayers Against Fraud
- Government Accountability Project
- National Whistleblower Center