

By Senator Burt

16-849-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to state correctional system
3 inspectors; amending s. 944.31, F.S.; providing
4 that inspectors employed by the Department of
5 Corrections who have been certified by the
6 Criminal Justice Standards and Training
7 Commission are state law enforcement officers;
8 providing an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Section 944.31, Florida Statutes, is
13 amended to read:

14 944.31 Inspector general; inspectors; power and
15 duties.--

16 (1) The inspector general shall be responsible for
17 prison inspection and investigation, internal affairs
18 investigations, and management reviews. The office of the
19 inspector general shall be charged with the duty of inspecting
20 the penal and correctional systems of the state. The office of
21 the inspector general shall inspect each correctional
22 institution or any place in which state prisoners are housed,
23 worked, or kept within the state, with reference to its
24 physical conditions, cleanliness, sanitation, safety, and
25 comfort; the quality and supply of all bedding; the quality,
26 quantity, and diversity of food served and the manner in which
27 it is served; the number and condition of the prisoners
28 confined therein; and the general conditions of each
29 institution. The office of inspector general shall see that
30 all the rules and regulations issued by the department are
31 strictly observed and followed by all persons connected with

1 the correctional systems of the state. The office of the
2 inspector general shall coordinate and supervise the work of
3 inspectors throughout the state. The inspector general and
4 inspectors may enter any place where prisoners in this state
5 are kept and shall be immediately admitted to such place as
6 they desire and may consult and confer with any prisoner
7 privately and without molestation. The inspector general and
8 inspectors shall be responsible for criminal and
9 administrative investigation of matters relating to the
10 Department of Corrections. In such investigations, the
11 inspector general and inspectors may consult and confer with
12 any prisoner or staff member privately and without molestation
13 and shall have the authority to detain any person for
14 violations of the criminal laws of the state. Such detention
15 shall be made only on properties owned or leased by the
16 department, and the detained person shall be surrendered
17 without delay to the sheriff of the county in which the
18 detention is made, with a formal complaint subsequently made
19 against her or him in accordance with law.

20 (2) All inspectors employed by the Department of
21 Corrections who have been certified under s. 943.1395 are law
22 enforcement officers of the state. Such inspectors have the
23 authority to conduct criminal investigations, bear arms, make
24 arrests, and apply for, serve, and execute throughout the
25 state search warrants, arrest warrants, capias, and other
26 process pertaining to the Department of Corrections.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides that inspectors employed by the Department of Corrections who are certified by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission are law enforcement officers of the state.