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2d Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ REPORT
115-1114

ACTIVITIES
OF THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM
ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

JANUARY 2, 2019

(Pursuant to House Rule XI, 1(d)(1))



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,

Washington, DC, January 2, 2019.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: In accordance with 1(d)(1) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I respectfully submit the report on the activities of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform for the 115th Congress.

Sincerely,

TREY GOWDY,
Chairman.

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ACTIVITIES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

JANUARY 2, 2019.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
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Mr. GOWDY, from the Committee on Oversight and Government
Reform, submitted the following

R E P O R T

I. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW

H.J. Res. 37, Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration relating to the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Introduced by Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) on 1/30/2017; passed House on 2/2/2017 (by record vote of 236-187); passed Senate on 3/6/2017 (by record vote of 49-48); became Pub. L. 115-11 on 3/27/2017.

H.R. 39, TALENT Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) on 1/3/2017; passed House on 1/11/2017 (under suspension by record vote of 386-17); passed Senate on 1/17/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115-1 on 1/20/2017.

H.R. 72, GAO Access and Oversight Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Earl L. “Buddy” Carter (R-GA) on 1/3/2017; passed House on 1/4/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 1/17/2017 (by record vote of 99-0); became Pub. L. 115-3 on 1/31/2017.

H.R. 194, Federal Agency Mail Management Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Steve Russell (R-OK) on 1/3/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-66); passed House on 5/17/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 11/8/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115-85 on 11/21/2017.

H.R. 195, Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Steve Russell (R-OK) on 1/3/2017; ordered reported

by Committee on 2/14/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–128); passed House on 5/17/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 12/21/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–120 on 1/22/2018.

H.R. 274, Modernizing Government Travel Act. Introduced by Rep. Seth Moulton (D–MA) on 1/4/2017; passed House on 1/10/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 5/2/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–34 on 5/16/2017.

H.R. 624, Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. David G. Valadao (R–CA) on 1/24/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/14/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–150); passed House on 5/24/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 9/6/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–59 on 9/15/2017.

H.R. 657, Follow the Rules Act. Introduced by Rep. Sean P. Duffy (R–WI) on 1/24/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–67); passed House on 5/1/2017 (under suspension by record vote of 407–0); passed Senate on 5/25/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–40 on 6/14/2017. Senate Companion (S. 576, Sen. Ron Johnson (R–WI)).

H.R. 1242, 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act. Introduced by Rep. Robert C. Scott (D–VA) on 2/28/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/28/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–105); passed House on 5/1/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 12/21/2017 (voice vote); became Pub. L. 115–102 on 1/8/2018.

H.R. 2229, All Circuit Review Act. Introduced by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D–MD) on 4/28/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 5/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–337); passed House on 10/11/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 6/12/2018 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–195 on 7/7/2018.

H.R. 2331, Connected Government Act. Introduced by Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D–IL) on 5/3/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–406); passed House on 11/15/2017 (under suspension by record vote of 423–0); passed Senate on 12/21/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–114 on 1/10/2018.

H.R. 2989, Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission Act. Introduced by Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D–DC) on 6/21/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–340); passed House on 10/11/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 10/18/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–77 on 11/2/2017.

H.R. 3031, TSP Modernization Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D–MD) on 6/23/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–343); passed House on 10/11/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 11/6/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–84 on 11/17/2017.

H.R. 3210, Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Stephen Knight (R–CA) on 7/12/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 15–258); passed House on 7/26/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 3/15/2018 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–173 on 5/22/2018.

H.R. 3243, FITARA Enhancement Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA) on 7/14/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-344); passed House on 10/11/2017 (under suspension by record vote of 418-0); passed Senate on 11/8/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115-88 on 11/21/2017.

H.R. 3398, REAL ID Act Modification for Freely Associated States Act. Introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) on 7/25/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/6/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-945); passed House on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 12/6/2018; became Pub. L. 115-323 on 12/17/2018.

H.R. 3731, Secret Service Recruitment and Retention Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. John Katko (R-NY) on 9/11/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-435); passed House on 12/5/2017 (under suspension by record vote of 407-4); passed Senate on 3/19/2018 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115-160 on 4/3/2018.

H.R. 4431, Correcting Miscalculations in Veterans' Pensions Act. Introduced by Rep. Earl L. "Buddy" Carter (R-GA) on 11/16/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/30/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-946); passed House on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 12/13/2018 (by unanimous consent); became law on 12/22/2018.*

H.R. 5759, 21st Century IDEA. Introduced by Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA) on 5/10/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-1055); passed House on 11/29/2018 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 12/11/2018 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115-336 on 12/20/2018.

H.R. 6870, An act to rename the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012 in honor of Representative Louise McIntosh Slaughter. Introduced by Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY) on 9/25/2018; discharged from the Committee on 9/25/2018; passed House on 9/28/2018 (by unanimous consent); passed Senate on 12/11/2018 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115-277 on 11/3/2018.

H.R. 6893, Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act. Introduced by Rep. Steve Russell (R-OK) on 9/25/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-1069); passed House on 12/10/2018 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate on 12/19/2018 (by unanimous consent); became law on December 21, 2018.*

S. 188, EGO Act. Introduced by Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) on 1/23/2017; passed Senate on 9/18/2017 (by unanimous consent); passed House on 3/6/2018 (under suspension by voice vote); became Pub. L. 115-158 on 3/27/2018. House companion (H.R. 1701. Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA)) ordered reported by Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-511).

S. 585, Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017. Introduced by Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) on 3/8/2017; passed Senate on 5/25/2017 (by unanimous consent); passed House on 10/12/2017 (by record vote of 420-0); became Pub. L. 115-73 on 10/26/2017. House companion (H.R. 3042, Rep. Sean P. Duffy (R-WI)).

S. 899, Veterans Providing Healthcare Transition Improvement Act. Introduced by Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI) on 4/7/2017; passed Senate on 3/28/2018 (by unanimous consent); passed House

on 7/16/2018 (under suspension by voice vote); became Pub. L. 115–238 on 9/7/2018. House companion (H.R. 2648, Rep. Steve Stivers (R–OH)) ordered reported by Committee on 5/23/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–825).

S. 1083, A bill to amend section 1214 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for stays during a period that the Merit Systems Protection Board lacks a quorum. Introduced by Sen. Ron Johnson (R–WI) on 5/10/2017; passed Senate on 5/11/2017 (by unanimous consent); passed House on 5/25/2017 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–42 on 6/27/2017.

S. 1869, Whistleblower Protection Coordination Act. Introduced by Sen. Chuck Grassley (R–IA) on 9/27/2017; passed Senate on 3/15/2018 (by unanimous consent); passed House on 6/7/2018 (by unanimous consent); became Pub. L. 115–192 on 6/25/2018. House companion (H.R. 4043, Rep. Rod Blum (R–IA)) ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–510).

* Pub. L. number not available at the time of printing.

POSTAL NAMING BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW

H.R. 294, Olson (R–TX), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Nddiobong Ekpanya Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–133).

H.R. 452, Luetkemeyer (R–MO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–134).

H.R. 606, DeSaulnier (D–CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1025 Nevin Avenue in Richmond, California, as the “Harold D. McCraw, Sr., Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–283).

H.R. 1207, Cuellar (D–TX), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 River Street in Tilden, Texas, as the “Tilden Veterans Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–311).

H.R. 1208, Cuellar (D–TX), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9155 Schaefer Road, Converse, Texas, as the “Converse Veterans Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–138).

H.R. 1209, Cuellar (D–TX), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 901 N. Francisco Avenue, Mission, Texas, as the “Mission Veterans Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–284).

H.R. 1210, Cuellar (D–TX), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 W. Goodwin Street, Pleasanton, Texas, as the “Pleasanton Veterans Post Office.”*

H.R. 1211, Cuellar (D–TX), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 N. Main Street, Encinal, Texas, as the “Encinal Veterans Post Office.”*

H.R. 1496, Bass (D–CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4040 West Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the “Marvin Gaye Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–207).

H.R. 1850, Amash (R–MI), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 907 Fourth Avenue in Lake Odessa, Michigan, as the “Donna Sauers Besko Post Office.”*

H.R. 1858, Marino (R-PA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-139).

H.R. 1988, McCarthy (R-CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1730 18th Street in Bakersfield, California, as the “Merle Haggard Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115-140).

H.R. 2254, Thompson (D-CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115-142).

H.R. 2302, Watson Coleman (D-NJ), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the “Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-143).

H.R. 2464, Lynch (D-MA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-144).

H.R. 2672, Bustos (D-IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Carter Street in Fairview, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Douglas J. Riney Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-145).

H.R. 2673, Bustos (D-IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Broadway Street in Pekin, Illinois, as the “Lance Corporal Jordan S. Bastean Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-208).

H.R. 2815, Lance (R-NJ), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30 East Somerset Street in Raritan, New Jersey, as the “Sergeant John Basilone Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-146).

H.R. 2873, Boyle (D-PA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115-147).

H.R. 2979, Aguilar (D-CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 390 West 5th Street in San Bernardino, California, as the “Jack H. Brown Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115-285).

H.R. 3109, LaHood (R-IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the “Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115-148).

H.R. 3183, Garrett (R-VA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the “U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office” (Pub. L. 115-209).

H.R. 3184, Garrett (R-VA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 180 McCormick Road in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the “Captain Humayun Khan Post Office.”*

H.R. 3230, Labrador (R-ID), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 915 Center Avenue in

Payette, Idaho, as the “Harmon Killebrew Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–286).

H.R. 3369, Hudson (R–NC), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 225 North Main Street in Spring Lake, North Carolina, as the “Howard B. Pate, Jr. Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–149).

H.R. 3638, Lawson (D–FL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the “Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–150).

H.R. 3655, Smith (R–NJ), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the “Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–151).

H.R. 3821, Collins (R–GA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 Main Street in Clermont, Georgia, as the “Zachary Addington Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–152).

H.R. 3893, Yoho (R–FL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Mathe Avenue in Interlachen, Florida, as the “Robert H. Jenkins Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–153).

H.R. 4042, Soto (D–FL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the “Borinqueneers Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–154).

H.R. 4285, LoBiondo (R–NJ), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the “James C. ‘Billy’ Johnson Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–155).

H.R. 4301, Norman (R–SC), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the “J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–210).

H.R. 4326, LaHood (R–IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 West North Street in Normal, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Josh Rodgers Post Office.”*

H.R. 4406, Espaillat (D–NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 Macombs Place in New York, New York, as the “Tuskegee Airmen Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–211).

H.R. 4407, Hultgren (R–IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3s101 Rockwell Street in Warrenville, Illinois, as the “Corporal Jeffery Allen Williams Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–316).

H.R. 4463, Velazquez (D–NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6 Doyers Street in New York, New York, as the “Mabel Lee Memorial Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–212).

H.R. 4574, Krishnamoorthi (D–IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomingdale, Illinois, as the “Bloomingdale Veterans Memorial Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–213).

H.R. 4646, Palmer (R–AL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1900 Corporate Drive in

Birmingham, Alabama, as the “Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers, Jr. Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–214).

H.R. 4685, Cicilline (D–RI), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 515 Hope Street in Bristol, Rhode Island, as the “First Sergeant P. Andrew McKenna Jr. Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–215).

H.R. 4722, Faso (R–NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, as the “Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–216).

H.R. 4840, Murphy (D–FL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, as the “Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–217).

H.R. 4890, Brown (D–MD), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9801 Apollo Drive in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, as the “Wayne K. Curry Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–287).

H.R. 4913, Harris (R–MD), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 816 East Salisbury Parkway in Salisbury, Maryland, as the “Sgt. Maj. Wardell B. Turner Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–288).

H.R. 4946, Correa (D–CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1075 North Tustin Street in Orange, California, as the “Specialist Trevor A. Win’E Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–289).

H.R. 4960, Hartzler (R–MO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 East Walnut Street in Columbia, Missouri, as the “Spc. Sterling William Wyatt Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–290).

H.R. 5205, Kihuen (D–NV), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 6th Street in Hawthorne, Nevada, as the “Sergeant Kenneth Eric Bostic Post Office.”*

H.R. 5238, Clarke (D–NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1234 Saint John’s Place in Brooklyn, New York, as the “Major Robert Odell Owens Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–317).

H.R. 5349, Cohen (D–TN), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1320 Autumn Avenue in Memphis, Tennessee, as the “Judge Russell B. Sugarmon Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–291).

H.R. 5395, Collins (R–NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Main Street in Dansville, New York, as the “Staff Sergeant Alexandria Gleason-Morrow Post Office Building.”*

H.R. 5412, King (R–NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 2nd Avenue in Brentwood, New York, as the “Army Specialist Jose L. Ruiz Post Office Building.”*

H.R. 5475, Graves (R–MO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 North Macon Street in Bevier, Missouri, as the “SO2 Navy SEAL Adam Olin Smith Post Office.”*

H.R. 5504, Newhouse (R-WA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4801 West Van Giesen Street in West Richland, Washington, as the "Sergeant Dietrich Schmieman Post Office Building" (Pub. L. 115-292).

H.R. 5737, Bustos (D-IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West D Street in Alpha, Illinois, as the "Captain Joshua E. Steele Post Office" (Pub. L. 115-293).

H.R. 5784, Moore (D-WI), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2650 North Doctor Martin Luther King Drive in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the "Vel R. Phillips Post Office Building" (Pub. L. 115-294).

H.R. 5791, Coffman (R-CO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9609 South University Boulevard in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, as the "Deputy Sheriff Zackari Spurlock Parrish, III, Post Office Building."*

H.R. 5792, Coffman (R-CO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 North 4th Avenue in Brighton, Colorado, as the "Detective Heath McDonald Gumm Post Office."*

H.R. 5868, Gibbs (R-OH), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 Claremont Avenue in Ashland, Ohio, as the "Bill Harris Post Office" (Pub. L. 115-295).

H.R. 5935, Davis (R-IL), An act to designate the facility at the United States Postal Service located at 1355 North Meridian Drive in Harristown, Illinois, as the "Logan S. Palmer Post Office" (Pub. L. 115-296).

H.R. 6020, Bishop (R-MI), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 325 South Michigan Avenue in Howell, Michigan, as the "Sergeant Donald Burgett Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6059, Moulton (D-MA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 51 Willow Street in Lynn, Massachusetts, as the "Thomas P. Costin, Jr. Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6116, Moolenaar (R-MI), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 362 North Ross Street in Beaverton, Michigan, as the "Colonel Alfred Asch Post Office" (Pub. L. 115-297).

H.R. 6167, Roskam (R-IL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5707 South Cass Avenue in Westmont, Illinois, as the "James William Robinson Jr. Memorial Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6216, Tipton (R-CO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3025 Woodgate Road in Montrose, Colorado, as the "Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office."*

H.R. 6217, Tipton (R-CO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 241 N 4th Street in Grand Junction, Colorado, as the "Deputy Sheriff Derek Geer Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6335, Esty (D-CT), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 322 Main Street in Oakville, Connecticut, as the "Oakville Veterans Memorial Post Office."*

H.R. 6405, Denham (R-CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2801 Mitchell Road in Ceres, California, as the "Lance Corporal Juana Navarro Arellano Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6428, Gottheimer (D-NJ), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 332 Ramapo Valley Road in Oakland, New Jersey, as the "Frank Leone Post Office."*

H.R. 6513, Brooks (R-AL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1110 West Market Street in Athens, Alabama, as the "Judge James E. Horton, Jr. Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6591, Butler Demings (D-FL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 South Kirkman Road in Orlando, Florida, as the "Napoleon 'Nap' Ford Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6621, Roe (R-TN), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 East Main Street in Johnson City, Tennessee, as the "Major Homer L. Pease Post Office."*

H.R. 6628, Smith (D-WA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4301 Northeast 4th Street in Renton, Washington, as the "James Marshall 'Jimi' Hendrix Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6655, LaMalfa (R-CA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44160 State Highway 299 East Suite 1 in McArthur, California, as the "Janet Lucille Oilar Post Office."*

H.R. 6780, Castor (D-FL), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7521 Paula Drive in Tampa, Florida, as the "Major Andreas O'Keeffe Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6831, Polis (D-CO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 West Main Street in Frisco, Colorado, as the "Patrick E. Mahany, Jr., Post Office Building."*

H.R. 6930, Stefanik (R-NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Miller Street in Plattsburgh, New York, as the "Ross Bouyea Post Office Building."*

H.R. 7230, Clyburn (D-SC), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 226 West Main Street in Lake City, South Carolina, as the "Postmaster Frazier B. Baker Post Office."*

H.R. 7243, Murphy (D-FL), An act to amend Public Law 115-217 to change the address of the postal facility designated by such Public Law in honor of Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe, and for other purposes."*

S. 831, Toomey (R-PA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 West Pike Street in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, as the "Police Officer Scott Bashoum Post Office Building" (Pub. L. 115-137).

S. 931, Gardner (R-CO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4910 Brighton Boulevard in Denver, Colorado, as the "George Sakato Post Office" (Pub. L. 115-220).

S. 2040, Roberts (R-KS), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 621 Kansas Avenue in Atchison, Kansas, as the “Amelia Earhart Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–162).

S. 2692, Gillibrand (D-NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4558 Broadway in New York, New York, as the “Stanley Michels Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–223).

S. 3209, Menendez (D-NJ), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 413 Washington Avenue in Belleville, New Jersey, as the “Private Henry Svehla Post Office Building” (Pub. L. 115–318).

S. 3237, Perdue (R-GA), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 12th Street Lobby in Columbus, Georgia, as the “Richard W. Williams, Jr., Chapter of the Triple Nickles (555th P.I.A.) Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–319).

S. 3414, Reed (D-RI), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Ferry Road in Saunderstown, Rhode Island, as the “Captain Matthew J. August Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–313).

S. 3442, McCaskill (D-MO), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 105 Duff Street in Macon, Missouri, as the “Arla W. Harrell Post Office” (Pub. L. 115–313).

* Pub. L. number not available at the time of submission.

BILLS ENACTED AS PART OF ANOTHER BILL

H.R. 69, Thoroughly Investigating Retaliation Against Whistleblowers Act. Introduced by Rep. Rod Blum (R-IA) on 1/3/2017; passed House on 1/4/2017 (under suspension by voice vote). H.R. 69 was included as Section 1097 of National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (H.R. 2810, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX)), which became Pub. L. 115–91 on 12/12/2017.

H.R. 1387, SOAR Reauthorization Act. Introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) on 3/7/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/10/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–62). H.R. 1387 was included as Title IX of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (H.R. 244, Rep. Paul Cook (R-CA)), which became Pub. L. 115–31 on 5/5/2017.

H.R. 2227, MGT Act. Introduced by Rep. Will Hurd (R-TX) on 4/28/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 5/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–129); passed House on 5/17/2017 (under suspension by voice vote). H.R. 2227 was included as Subtitle G of National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (H.R. 2810, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX)), which became Pub. L. 115–91 on 12/12/2017.

H.R. 3019, Promoting Value Based Procurement Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on 6/22/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote. H.R. 3019 was included as Section 880 of John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (H.R. 5515, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX)), which became Pub. L. 115–232 on 8/13/2018.

H.R. 3071, Federal Acquisition Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Earl L. “Buddy” Carter (R-GA) on 6/8/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–402); passed House on 11/13/2017 (under suspension by record vote 396–0). H.R. 3071 was included as Section 555 of the FAA Reauthorization Act

of 2018 (H.R. 302, Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)), which became Pub. L. 115–254 on 10/5/2018.

H.R. 4171, To amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the authority to conduct telework travel expenses test programs, and for other purposes. Introduced by Greg Gianforte (R-MT) on 10/31/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–460); passed House on 12/12/2017 (under suspension by voice vote). H.R. 4171 was included as Section 1105 of John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (H.R. 5515, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX)), which became Pub. L. 115–232 on 8/13/2018.

H.R. 5925, CRISIS Act. Introduced by Rep. Trey Gowdy (R-SC) on 5/23/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 5/23/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–767); passed House on 6/20/2018 (under suspension by voice vote). H.R. 5925 was included as Subtitle K of the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act, or “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act” (H.R. 6, Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR)), which became Pub. L. 115–271 on 10/24/2018.

POSTAL NAMING BILLS ENACTED VIA ANOTHER BILL

H.R. 1950, Murphy (R-PA), A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 West Pike Street in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, as the “Police Officer Scott Bashioum Post Office Building” (enacted via S. 831 as Pub. L. 115–137).

H.R. 4188, Jenkins (R-KS), A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 621 Kansas Avenue in Atchison, Kansas, as the “Amelia Earhart Post Office Building” (enacted via S. 2040 as Pub. L. 115–162).

H.R. 4405, Espaillat (D-NY), A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4558 Broadway in New York, New York, as the “Stanley Michaels Post Office Building” (enacted via S. 2692 as Pub. L. 115–223).

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

S. 2276, Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act. Introduced by Sen. Todd Young (R-IN) on 1/04/2018; passed Senate on 12/06/2018 (by unanimous consent); passed House on 12/21/2018 (under suspension by recorded vote of 382–2); presented to the President on December 27, 2018.* House companion (H.R. 5415, Rep. Mark Walker (R-NC)) ordered reported by Committee on 5/23/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–823); passed House on 7/16/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

S. 3191, Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018. Introduced by Sen. Doug Jones (D-AL) on 7/10/2018; passed Senate on 12/17/2018 (by unanimous consent); passed House on 12/21/2018 (under suspension by recorded vote of 376–6); presented to the President on December 27, 2018. House companion (H.R. 1272, Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)) ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by UC.

BILLS PASSED THE HOUSE

H. Res. 759, Expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Reverend Billy Graham. Intro-

duced by Rep. Ted Budd (R-NC) on 3/1/2018; Committee discharged on 3/1/2018; passed House on 3/1/2018 (by unanimous consent).

H. Res. 838, Honoring the life of First Lady Barbara Bush. Introduced by Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX) on 4/24/2018; Committee discharged on 4/24/2018; passed House on 4/24/2018 (by unanimous consent).

H. Res. 1138, Condemning the anti-Semitic attack on the building housing three congregations, Tree of Life, Dor Hadash, and New Light, honoring the memory of the victims of the attack, and offering condolences to and expressing support for their families, friends, and community. Introduced by Rep. Michael Doyle (D-PA) on 11/6/2018; Committee discharged on 11/13/2018; passed House on 11/13/2018 (by unanimous consent).

H. Res. 838, Honoring the life of President George Herbert Walker Bush. Introduced by Rep. Bill Flores (R-TX) on 12/10/2018; Committee discharged on 12/11/2018; passed House on 12/11/2018 (by unanimous consent).

H.R. 50, Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) on 01/03/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by record vote of 20–10 (H. Rept. 115–798, Part I); passed House on 7/13/2018 (by record vote of 230–168).

H.R. 70, Federal Advisory Committee Act Amendments of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay (D-MO) on 01/03/2017; passed House on 1/4/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 71, Taxpayers Right-To-Know Act. Introduced by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI) on 1/3/2017; Passed House on 1/4/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 73, Presidential Library Donation Reform Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. John J. Duncan, Jr. (R-TN) on 1/3/2017; passed House on 1/4/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 378, Bonuses for Cost-Cutters Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Charles J. “Chuck” Fleischmann (R-TN) on 1/9/2017; ordered reported by committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–341); passed House on 10/11/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 653, Federal Intern Protection Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD) on 1/24/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/8/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–78); passed House on 5/17/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 702, Federal Employee Antidiscrimination Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD) on 1/27/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–79); passed House on 7/11/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 998, SCRUB Act. Introduced by Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO) on 2/9/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/14/2017 by record vote of 22–17 (H. Rept. 115–14); passed House on 3/1/2017 (by record vote of 240–185).

H.R. 1004, Regulatory Integrity Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI) on 2/13/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/14/2017 by record vote of 22–16 (H. Rept. 115–15); passed House on 3/2/2017 (by record vote of 246–176).

H.R. 1009, OIRA Insight, Reform, and Accountability Act. Introduced by Rep. Paul Mitchell (R-MI) on 2/13/2017; ordered reported

by Committee on 2/14/2017 by record vote of 23–16 (H. Rept. 115–19); passed House on 3/1/2017 (by record vote of 241–184).

H.R. 1132, Political Appointee Burrowing Prevention Act. Introduced by Rep. Ken Buck (R–CO) on 2/16/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–439); passed House on 3/6/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 1293, To amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees. Introduced by Rep. Dennis A. Ross (R–FL) on 3/1/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/8/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–118); passed House on 5/24/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 1376, Electronic Message Preservation Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings on 3/7/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–824); passed House on 7/16/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 1694, Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R–UT) on 3/23/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/28/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–93); passed House on 4/27/2017 (by record vote of 425–0).

H.R. 2196, To amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients. Introduced by Rep. Steve Russell (R–OK) on 4/27/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 5/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–342); passed by House on 10/11/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 2846, Federal Agency Customer Experience Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Blake Farenthold (R–TX) on 6/8/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–1043); passed House on 11/29/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 2897, An act to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes. Introduced by Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D–DC) on 6/13/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–436); passed House on 1/16/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 3076, Creating Advanced Streamlined Electronic Services for Constituents Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Garret Graves (R–LA) on 6/27/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/6/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–826); passed House on 7/16/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 3121, All-American Flag Act. Introduced by Rep. Cheri Bustos (D–IL) on 6/29/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–1044); passed House on 11/29/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 3154, Inspector General Access Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Cedric Richmond (D–LA) on 6/29/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by unanimous consent (H. Rept. 115–1045); passed House on 11/29/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 3737, Social Media Use in Clearance Investigations Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R–FL) on 9/12/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept.

115–512); passed House on 3/6/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 3739, Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Jody Hice (R–GA) on 9/12/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–407); passed House on 11/13/2017 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 4182, Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service (EQUALS) Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. James Comer (R–KY) on 10/31/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by record vote of 19–17 (H. Rept. 115–415); passed House on 11/30/2017 (by record vote of 213–204).

H.R. 4446, To amend the Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission Act to extend the expiration date of the Commission, and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Stacey Plaskett (D–VI) on 11/16/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–822); passed House on 7/16/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 4809, Guidance Out of Darkness Act. Introduced by Rep. Mark Walker (R–NC) on 1/16/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–972); passed House on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 4887, Grant Reporting Efficiency and Agreements Transparency Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Virginia Foxx (R–NC) on 1/29/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 2/6/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–947); passed house on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 4917, IG Subpoena Authority Act. Introduced by Rep. Steve Russell (R–OK) on 2/2/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 2/6/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–799); passed House on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 5896, Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Amendments Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Will Hurd (R–TX) on 5/21/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 5/23/2018 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–973); passed House on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 6777, Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Gary J. Palmer (R–AL) on 9/12/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by unanimous consent; passed House on 11/29/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 6846, To require the United States Postal Service to establish new ZIP codes, and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R–FL) on 9/20/2018; passed House on 9/26/2018 (under suspension by voice vote).

H.R. 6901, Federal CIO Authorization Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Will Hurd (R–TX) on 9/26/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by unanimous consent (H. Rept. 115–987); passed House on 11/29/2018 (under suspension by record vote 391–0).

H.R. 4174, Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Paul Ryan (R–WI) on 10/31/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–411); passed House on 11/15/2017 (under suspension by voice vote); passed Senate with an amendment on 12/19/2018 (by unanimous consent); amendment agreed to by House on 12/21/2018 (under suspension by record vote of 356–17); returned to Senate with an Enacting Correction via H. Con. Res. 149; H. Con Res. 149 agreed to

in the House by unanimous consent on 12/22/2018. The Committee expects H.R. 4174 to be presented to the President before the end of the Congress, but it had yet to be presented to him at the time of submission of this report.

POSTAL NAMING BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE

H.R. 6838, Comer (R-KY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 128 East Carlisle Street in Marion, Kentucky, as the “Ollie M. James Post Office Building”.

H.R. 7293, Morelle (D-NY), An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 770 Ayrault Road in Fairport, New York, as the “Louise and Bob Slaughter Post Office”.

BILLS FAVORABLY REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE

H. Res. 38, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that offices attached to the seat of Government should not be required to exercise their offices in the District of Columbia. Introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) on 1/10/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/10/2017 by record vote of 21–19.

H.J. Res. 27, Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Death with Dignity Act of 2016. Introduced by Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R-OH) on 1/12/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/13/2017 by record vote of 22–14.

H.R. 24, Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY) on 1/3/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/28/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–318).

H.R. 559, MERIT Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R-GA) on 1/3/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/17/2018 by record vote of 19–11.

H.R. 679, Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on 1/24/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/2/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–68).

H.R. 680, Eliminating Pornography from Agencies Act. Introduced by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on 1/24/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/8/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115–81).

H.R. 756, Postal Service Reform Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) on 1/31/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/16/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 760, Postal Service Financial Improvement Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA) on 1/31/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/16/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 1003, District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act. Introduced by Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) on 2/13/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 2/14/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 1364, Official Time Reform Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Jody B. Hice (R-GA) on 3/6/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/10/2017 by record vote of 23–17.

H.R. 1552, FOCA Act. Introduced by Rep. Dennis A. Ross (R-FL) on 3/15/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/28/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 1701, EGO Act. Introduced by Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA) on 3/23/2017; ordered reported by the Committee on 9/13/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 2195, OSC Access Act. Introduced by Rep. Rod Blum (R-IA) on 4/27/2017; ordered reported by the Committee on 5/2/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 2623, Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2017. Introduced by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on 5/24/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/30/2017 by record vote of 23-17.

H.R. 3244, To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for annual surveys of Federal employees, and for other purposes. Introduced by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) on 7/14/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 7/19/2017 by voice vote (H. Rept. 115-403).

H.R. 3303, First Responder Fair RETIRE Act. Introduced by Rep. Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA) on 7/19/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote.

H.R. 4177, Preparedness and Risk Management for Extreme Weather Patterns Assuring Resilience and Effectiveness Act of 2017 or PREPARE Act. Introduced by Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA) on 10/31/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 11/2/2017 by voice vote.

H.R. 4631, Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act. Introduced by Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL) on 12/12/2017; ordered reported by Committee on 4/12/2018 by voice vote.

H.R. 5253, Office of Government Information Services Empowerment Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Blake Farenthold (R-TX) on 3/13/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 3/15/2018 by voice vote.

H.R. 5300, Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Gary J. Palmer (R-AL) on 3/15/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 7/17/2018 by voice vote.

H.R. 5321, TL; DR Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA) on 3/15/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 5/23/2018 by voice vote.

H.R. 5381, Government Risk and Taxpayer Exposure Reduction (GRATER) Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Edward Royce (R-CA) on 3/22/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by voice vote.

H.R. 6391, Merit Systems Protection Board Reauthorization Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Jody B. Hice (R-GA) on 7/16/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 7/17/2018 by record vote of 20-12.

H.R. 6891, The Anti-Deficiency Reform and Enforcement Act of 2018. Introduced by Rep. Paul Mitchell (R-MI) on 9/25/2018; ordered reported by Committee on 9/27/2018 by record vote of 14-11.

BILLS ADVERSELY REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE

H. Res. 877, Resolution of inquiry directing the Secretary of Commerce to provide certain documents in the Secretary's possession to the House of Representatives relating to the decision to include a question on citizenship in the 2020 decennial census of population. Introduced by Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D-CA) on 5/8/2018; ordered reported adversely by Committee on 5/23/2018 by record vote of 20-16 (H. Rept. 115-705).

FULL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETINGS HELD

January 24, 2017—Organization Meeting

Committee Rules: (1) Mr. Chaffetz offered an amendment making two technical changes—one to Rule 2(d) and one to Rule 4(d): The amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. (2) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment to Rule 12(g): The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 12–21. (3) Ms. Lawrence offered an amendment to Rule 12(g). (4) Mr. Cummings offered an amendment to Rule 13: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 12–20. The Committee Rules were agreed to, as amended, by a vote of 21–12.

January 31, and February 2, 2017—Business Meeting

Authorization and Oversight Plan for the 115th Congress: (1) Ms. Norton offered an amendment regarding the Government of the District of Columbia: The amendment was not agreed to by voice vote. (2) Mr. Clay offered an amendment to add a new section, “President’s Global Business Dealings.”: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 10–15. (3) Mr. Lynch offered an amendment regarding the federal workforce: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 10–16. (4) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment to the section, “Homeland Security.”: The amendment was withdrawn. (5) Ms. Lawrence offered an amendment to add a new section, “President’s Global Business Dealings.”: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 13–20. (6) Ms. Watson Coleman offered an amendment to the section, “Criminal Justice Reform.”: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 13–19. (7) Ms. Demings offered an amendment to the section, “Homeland Security.”: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 13–19. (8) Mr. Raskin offered an amendment to insert a new section, “President’s Global Business Dealings.”: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 13–20. (9) Mr. Cummings offered an amendment to add a new section, “Voting Rights.”: The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 13–19. (10) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment at the end of the section titled, “Homeland Security.”: The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The Authorization and Oversight Plan, as amended, was approved by a recorded vote of 20–14.

H.R. 194 (Russell), Federal Agency Mail Management Act of 2017: The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 702 (Cummings), Federal Employee Antidiscrimination Act of 2017: The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 679 (Meadows), Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2017: Mr. Meadows offered an amendment. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House, as amended, by voice vote.

H.R. 657 (Duffy), Follow the Rules Act: Mr. Chaffetz offered an amendment in the Nature of a Substitute. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House, as amended, by voice vote.

February 13, 2017

H.J. Res. 27, A Resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Death with Dignity Act of 2016: The resolution was ordered reported favorably to the House by a recorded vote of 22–14.

February 14, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 195 (Russell), Federal Register Printing Savings Act of 2017: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 624 (Valadao), Social Security Fraud Prevention Act of 2017: Mr. Chaffetz offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 998 (Smith–MO), Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome Act of 2017: (1) Mr. Cummings offered an amendment regarding protections for whistleblowers. The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 12–21. (2) Ms. Lawrence offered an amendment relating to protection against lead poisoning. The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 14–21. (3) Mr. Krishnamoorthi offered an amendment regarding reviewing oldest rules first. The amendment was not agreed to by a voice vote. (4) Mr. Raskin offered an amendment related to conflicts of interest. The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 17–22. (5) Mr. Raskin offered an amendment relating to the Clean Air Act. The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 17–22. The bill was favorably reported to the House by a vote of 22–17.

H.R. 1004 (Walberg), Regulatory Integrity Act of 2017: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a vote of 22–16.

H.R. 1009 (Mitchell), OIRA Insight, Reform, and Accountability Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a vote of 23–16.

H.R. 1003 (Norton), District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act: The resolution was ordered reported favorably to the House by a voice vote.

March 8–10, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 1293 (Ross), A Bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees: Mr. Cummings offered an amendment that adds a reporting requirement to the list of reporting requirements in the underlying bill. Requires reporting on official time used to work on behalf of non-union members. The amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill was favorably reported to the House, as amended, by a voice vote.

H.R. 653 (Cummings), Federal Intern Protection Act of 2017: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H. Res. 38 (Chaffetz), A Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that offices attached to the seat of Government should not be required to exercise their offices in the District of Columbia: (1) Mr. Blum offered an amendment that changes the word “should” to “may” with regard to agencies relo-

cating to clarify that agency relocation should be based on case-by-case determinations. Inserts the requirement that agencies conduct an analysis of the costs associated with relocating outside of the District. The amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. (2) Ms. Norton offered an amendment that requires federal agencies to conduct a 30-year cost analysis and relocate only if the cost is net neutral and then only to property already owned by the federal government. The amendment was not agreed to by a voice vote. The bill was favorably reported to the House, as amended, by a recorded vote of 21–19.

H.R. 680 (Meadows), Eliminating Pornography from Agencies Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 1364 (Hice), Official Time Reform Act of 2017: (1) Ms. Foxx offered an amendment that prevents employees engaged in 80% or more official time from getting bonuses. The amendment was agreed to by a recorded vote of 18–11. (2) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment that exempts the use of official time by whistleblowers. The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 12–21. (3) Mr. Krishnamoorthi offered an amendment that exempts the use of official time by national security whistleblowers. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 15–21. (4) Ms. Kelly offered an amendment that exempts the use of official time addressing conflicts of interests. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 15–21. (5) Mr. Lynch offered an amendment that exempts categories from benefit reductions in the underlying bill. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 17–21. (6) Mr. Raskin offered an amendment that exempts the use of official time addressing conflicts of interests. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 17–21. (7) Ms. Plaskett offered an amendment that exempts official time spent fighting sexual harassment. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 17–22. (8) Ms. Lawrence offered an amendment that provides exceptions to the underlying bill regarding discrimination. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 17–22. (9) Ms. Norton (for Mr. Cummings) offered an amendment that exempts employees representing non-union members in grievances. The amendment was not agreed to, with a recorded vote of 17–23. The bill was reported favorably to the House, as amended, by a recorded vote of 23–17.

H.R. 1387 (Chaffetz), SOAR Reauthorization Act: (1) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment that would require the use of the strongest possible research design for determining the effectiveness of the opportunity scholarship program. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 17–23. (2) Ms. Watson Coleman offered an amendment that would insert sexual orientation and gender identity into the list of protected classes under the SOAR Act. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 17–22. (3) Mr. DeSaulnier offered an amendment that would require protection of students and applicants under civil rights laws. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of 18–23. The bill was reported favorably to the House by a voice vote.

March 16, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 756 (Chaffetz), the Postal Service Reform Act of 2017: (1) Mr. Chaffetz offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). (2) Mr. Issa offered an amendment to the ANS that changes

the structure for the voluntary conversion of residential addresses to centralized delivery by automatically enrolling all addresses within a designated block once the Postal Service receives the 40 percent of signatures necessary to begin the conversion and allowing the remaining 60 percent a 30-day window to opt out. Mr. Issa later asked unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment. There was no objection and the amendment was withdrawn. (3) Mr. Desaulnier offered an amendment to the ANS that requires the Postal Service to notify the appropriate Member of Congress 10 days before a consolidation, closure, or a reduction in services provided at a postal retail facility or mail processing plant. The amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. (4) Mr. Issa offered an amendment to the ANS that requires the Postal Service to eliminate one mail delivery day per week if it does not meet a 2 percent net sales profit. Mr. Issa later asked unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment. There was no objection and the amendment was withdrawn. (5) Mr. Issa offered an amendment to the ANS requiring that if the Postal Service does not meet a 2 percent net sales profit, it must alter the system used to convert residential addresses to centralized delivery. Mr. Issa later asked unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment. There was no objection and the amendment was withdrawn. (6) Mr. Issa offered an amendment to the ANS requiring that if the Postal Service does not meet a .001 percent net sales profit, it must alter the system used to convert residential addresses to centralized delivery. The amendment was not agreed to by a voice vote. The ANS, as amended by the DeSaulnier amendment, was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill was favorably reported to the House, as amended, by a voice vote.

H.R. 760 (Lynch), the Postal Service Financial Improvement Act of 2017: Mr. Chaffetz offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill was favorably reported to the House, as amended, by a voice vote.

March 28, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 1694 (Chaffetz), Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017: Mr. Chaffetz offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill was favorably reported to the House, as amended, by a voice vote.

H.R. 1552 (Ross), Fair and Open Competition Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 1242 (Scott–VA), 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 24 (Massie), Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2017: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

May 2, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 2227 (Hurd), Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 2196 (Russell), A Bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 2195 (Blum), OSC Access Act: Mr. Blum offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to

by a voice vote. The bill was favorably reported to the House, as amended, by a voice vote.

H.R. 2229 (Cummings), All Circuit Review Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

July 19, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 3244 (Meadows), A Bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for annual surveys of Federal employees, and for other purposes: (1) Mr. Meadows offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). (2) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment to the ANS that requires agencies to submit to the Office of Personnel Management a list of all incentives offered to employees to increase participation on the annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS). It also requires the Government Accountability Office to study the types of incentives offered by agencies to employees in exchange for participation in the FEVS, to provide an evaluation of the impact of such incentives on employee survey responses and response rates, and to issue any recommendations considered necessary. The Connolly amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. The Meadows ANS, as amended, was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3031 (Cummings), TSP Modernization Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 378 (Fleischmann), Bonuses for Cost-Cutters Act of 2017: Mr. Duncan offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The Duncan ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 2897 (Norton), A Bill to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3210 (Knight), Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act of 2017: (1) Mr. Krishnamoorthi offered an amendment that requires the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB) to report on the process for Executive Office of the President personnel security clearance investigations and adjudications. The amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. (2) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment that requires the NBIB to report to Congress on duplicative costs that might arise under a potential transfer of background investigation responsibilities to the Department of Defense. The amendment was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 2989 (Norton), Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission Act: (1) Ms. Norton offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The Norton ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3243 (Connolly), FITARA Enhancement Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

September 13, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 3731 (Katko), Secret Service Recruitment and Retention Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3739 (Hice), Presidential Allowance Modernization Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3071 (Carter—GA), Federal Acquisition Savings Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 1701 (Cartwright), Eliminating Government-funded Oil-painting Act: Mr. Cartwright offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The Cartwright ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3019 (Meadows), Promoting Value Based Procurement Act of 2017: Mr. Connolly offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The Connolly ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3737 (DeSantis), Social Media Use in Clearance Investigations Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 2331 (Kelly—IL), Connected Government Act: Ms. Kelly offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The Kelly ANS was agreed to by a voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

The following bills were reported favorably (en bloc) to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 294 (Olson), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2700 Cullen Boulevard in Pearland, Texas, as the “Endy Ekpanya Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 452 (Luetkemeyer), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 324 West Saint Louis Street in Pacific, Missouri, as the “Specialist Jeffrey L. White, Jr. Post Office”;
- H.R. 606 (DeSaulnier), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1025 Nevin Avenue in Richmond, California, as the “Harold D. McCraw, Sr., Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 1207 (Cuellar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 River Street in Tilden, Texas, as the “Tilden Veterans Post Office”;
- H.R. 1208 (Cuellar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9155 Schaefer Road, Converse, Texas, as the “Converse Veterans Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 1209 (Cuellar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 901 N. Francisco Avenue, Mission, Texas, as the “Mission Veterans Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 1210 (Cuellar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 W. Goodwin Street, Pleasanton, Texas, as the “Pleasanton Veterans Post Office”;

- H.R. 1211 (Cuellar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 N. Main Street, Encinal, Texas, as the “Encinal Veterans Post Office”;
- H.R. 1858 (Marino), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4514 Williamson Trail in Liberty, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Ryan Scott Ostrom Post Office”;
- H.R. 1950 (Murphy–PA), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 West Pike Street in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, as the “Police Officer Scott Bashioum Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 2254 (Thompson–CA), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the “Janet Capello Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 2302 (Watson Coleman), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the “Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office”;
- H.R. 2464 (Lynch), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 New Chardon Street Lobby in Boston, Massachusetts, as the “John Fitzgerald Kennedy Post Office”;
- H.R. 2815 (Lance), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 30 East Somerset Street in Raritan, New Jersey, as the “Sergeant John Basilone Post Office”;
- H.R. 2873 (Boyle), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 Glenside Avenue in Wyncote, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Peter Taub Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 3109 (LaHood), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the “Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 3230 (Labrador), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 915 Center Avenue in Payette, Idaho, as the “Harmon Killebrew Post Office Building”; and
- H.R. 3369 (Hudson), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 225 North Main Street in Spring Lake, North Carolina, as the “Howard B. Pate, Jr. Post Office.”

November 2, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 4174 (Ryan–WI), Foundations for Evidence-Based Policy-making Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 4182 (Comer), Ensuring a Qualified Civil Service (EQUALS) Act of 2017: Mr. Connolly offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The amendment was not agreed to by voice vote. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a record vote of 19–17.

H.R. 1132 (Buck), Political Appointee Burrowing Prevention Act: Mr. Meadows offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

H.R. 4043 (Blum), Whistleblower Protection Extension Act of 2017: Mr. Blum offered an amendment that makes a technical fix to make the effective date of the bill retroactive. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

H.R. 4171 (Gianforte), A Bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the authority to conduct telework travel expenses test programs, and for other purposes: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 3121 (Bustos), All-American Flag Act: Mr. Russell offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The ANS was agreed to by a record vote of 35–1. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

H.R. 4177 (Cartwright), Preparedness and Risk Management for Extreme Weather Patterns Assuring Resilience and Effectiveness (PREPARE) Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a voice vote.

The following postal naming bills (en bloc) were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 1850 (Amash), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 907 Fourth Avenue in Lake Odessa, Michigan, as the “Donna Sauers Besko Post Office”;
- H.R. 2672 (Bustos), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 520 Carter Street in Fairview, Illinois, as the “Sgt. Douglas J. Riney Post Office”;
- H.R. 2673 (Bustos), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 514 Broadway Street in Pekin, Illinois, as the “Lance Corporal Jordan S. Bastean Post Office”;
- H.R. 3821 (Collins–GA), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 Main Street in Clermont, Georgia, as the “Zachary Addington Post Office” (with an amendment and an amendment to the title); and
- H.R. 3893 (Yoho), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Mathe Avenue in Interlachen, Florida, as the “Robert H. Jenkins Post Office” (with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title).

November 30, 2017—Business Meeting

H.R. 2623 (Meadows–NC), Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2017: (1) Mr. Meadows offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). (2) Ms. Norton offered an amendment to the ANS that exempts regulations related to sexual harassment from the one-in-two-out process and reporting requirements in section 5. The amendment failed by a record vote of 15–20 (vote #1). (3) Ms. Plaskett offered an amendment to the ANS that exempts regulations related to protecting whistleblowers from the one-in-two-out process and reporting requirements in section 5. The amendment failed by a record vote of 16–21 (vote #2). (4) Mr. Krishnamoorthi offered an amendment to the ANS that exempts regulations related to obtaining or retaining

security clearances from the one-in-two-out process and reporting requirements in section 5. The amendment failed by a record vote of 17–23 (vote #3). The Meadows ANS passed by a record vote of 23–17 (vote #4). The bill, as amended, was favorably reported to the House by a record vote of 23–17 (vote #5).

H.R. 4431 (Carter–GA), Correcting Miscalculations in Veterans’ Pensions Act: Mr. Cummings offered an amendment that provides permissive authority to the Office of Personnel Management to pay interest assessed on federal government civilian pension deposits made by former Peace Corps and AmeriCorps members. The amendment was withdrawn. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

The following postal naming bills were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 3638 (Lawson–FL), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Kings Road in Jacksonville, Florida, as the “Rutledge Pearson Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 3655 (Smith–NJ), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1300 Main Street in Belmar, New Jersey, as the “Dr. Walter S. McAfee Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4042 (Soto–FL), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1415 West Oak Street, in Kissimmee, Florida, as the “Borinqueneers Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4285 (LoBiondo–NJ), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 Bridgeton Pike in Mullica Hill, New Jersey, as the “James C. ‘Billy’ Johnson Post Office Building”; and
- H.R. 4301 (Norman–SC), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Tom Hall Street in Fort Mill, South Carolina, as the “J. Elliott Williams Post Office Building.”

February 2, 2018—Business Meeting

H.R. 4887 (Foxx), Grant Reporting Efficiency and Agreements Transparency (GREAT) Act of 2018: (1) Ms. Foxx offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). (2) Mr. Gomez offered and then withdrew an amendment to the ANS. (3) Mr. Connolly offered an amendment to the ANS that strikes “nonproprietary” from the ANS and inserts a new section that requires the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Secretary of the standard setting agency to make a determination on nonproprietary identifiers and report their decision and reasoning to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee within one year. The Connolly amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The Foxx ANS, as amended, was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 4917 (Russell), IG Subpoena Authority Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 3076 (Graves), Creating Advanced Streamlined Electronic Services (CASES) for Constituents Act of 2017: Mr. Meadows offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The

Meadows ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was agreed to by voice vote.

H.R. 4631 (Quigley), Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act: Mr. Mitchell offered an amendment that replaces the term “website” throughout the bill, with “online portal.” The amendment also tightens the language in section 6 regarding the Freedom of Information Act. The text as amended creates a uniform approach to withholding sensitive information in both the report and the information submitted with the report. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 3398 (Young–AK), REAL ID Act Modification for Freely Associated States Act: The bill was favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

The following postal naming bills were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 3183 (Garrett), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13683 James Madison Highway in Palmyra, Virginia, as the “U.S. Navy Seaman Dakota Kyle Rigsby Post Office”;
- H.R. 4188 (Jenkins), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 621 Kansas Avenue in Atchison, Kansas, as the “Amelia Earhart Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4405 (Espaillat), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4558 Broadway in New York, New York, as the “Stanley Michaels Post Office Building” (as amended);
- H.R. 4406 (Espaillat), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 99 Macombs Place in New York, New York, as the “Tuskegee Airman Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4463 (Velazquez), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6 Doyers Street in New York, New York, as the “Mabel Lee Memorial Post Office”;
- H.R. 4646 (Palmer), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1900 Corporate Drive in Birmingham, Alabama, as the “Lance Corporal Thomas E. Rivers, Jr. Post Office Building”; and
- H.R. 4685 (Cicilline), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 515 Hope Street in Bristol, Rhode Island, as the “First Sergeant P. Andrew McKenna Jr. Post Office.”

March 15, 2018—Business Meeting

H.R. 50 (Foxx), Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2017: Ms. Foxx offered an amendment that reauthorizes funding of \$1.5 million annually for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) from 2018 through 2024 to fulfill their responsibilities under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) of 1995—reducing the amount by \$3 million compared to prior authorization levels. The Foxx amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by a record vote of 20–10 (Vote #1).

H.R. 1339 (Duncan–TN), Freedom from Government Competition Act of 2017: (1) Mr. Duncan offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). (2) Mr. Farenthold offered an amendment to the ANS that exempts functions performed by Department of Defense civilian employees for depot-level maintenance and repair from possible outsourcing. Mr. Duncan asked unanimous consent to postpone consideration of H.R. 1339. There was no objection.

H.R. 2846 (Farenthold), Federal Agency Customer Experience Act of 2017: (1) Mr. Farenthold offered an ANS. (2) Mr. Raskin offered an amendment to the ANS that adds a Sense of Congress provision that adequate federal funding is needed to ensure agency staffing levels that can provide the public with appropriate customer service levels. The Raskin amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The ANS, as amended, was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 4809 (Walker), Guidance Out of Darkness (GOOD) Act: Mr. Walker offered an ANS. The ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 5253 (Farenthold), Office of Government Information Services Empowerment Act of 2018: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 1376 (Cummings), Electronic Message Preservation Act of 2017: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 3303 (Connolly), First Responder Fair RETIRE Act: Mr. Russell offered an ANS. The ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

H.R. 4446 (Plaskett), A Bill to amend the Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission Act to extend the expiration date of the Commission, and for other purposes: Mr. Grothman offered an ANS. The ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

The following postal naming bills were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 2979 (Aguilar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 390 West 5th Street in San Bernardino, California, as the “Jack H. Brown Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4574 (Krishnamoorthi), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomingdale, Illinois, as the “Bloomingdale Veterans Memorial Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4722 (Faso), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 111 Market Street in Saugerties, New York, as the “Maurice D. Hinchey Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4840 (Murphy–FL), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 567 East Franklin Street in Oviedo, Florida, as the “Sergeant First Class Alwyn Crendall Cashe Post Office Building”;

- H.R. 4890 (Brown), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9801 Apollo Drive in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, as the “Wayne K. Curry Post Office Building”;
- H.R. 4960 (Hartzler), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 511 East Walnut Street in Columbia, Missouri, as the “Spc. Sterling William Wyatt Post Office Building”;
- S. 931 (Gardner), An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4910 Brighton Boulevard in Denver, Colorado, as the “George Sakato Post Office”;
- H.R. 1496 (Bass), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4040 West Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the “Marvin Gaye Post Office” with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and
- H.R. 3184 (Garrett), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 180 McCormick Road in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the “Captain Humayun Khan Post Office” with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

May 23, 2018—Business Meeting

H.R. 5925 (Gowdy), A Bill to codify provisions relating to the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and for other purposes: (1) Mr. Cummings offered an amendment that adds the Director of the Fusion Center to the membership of the Emerging Threats Task Force, clarifies the Emerging Threats Plan and information sharing requirements include substance use disorder treatment, and clarifies the Treatment Coordinator section of the bill. The amendment also introduces a new requirement to convene an advisory committee to promulgate standards for substance abuse disorder treatment and recovery facilities. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. (2) Mr. Lynch offered an amendment that requires the President to notify Congress if the President has not issued the National Drug Control Strategy by the due date. It also requires the OGR Committee to hold a hearing at which the Director shall explain the failure to provide the Strategy. (3) Mr. Palmer offered an amendment (2nd degree) to the Lynch amendment. Mr. Palmer’s amendment removes the requirement that the OGR Committee hold a hearing if the President has not issued the National Drug Control Strategy by the due date. The Palmer amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The Lynch amendment, as amended, was agreed to by voice vote. (4) Mr. Mitchell offered an amendment that requires the Director to establish a tracking system of federally funded initiatives and grant programs, establish performance metrics and goals for grant programs, develop a common application form for drug control related grant programs, and maintain a comprehensive list of all drug control program grant award opportunities. The Mitchell amendment was agreed to by voice vote. (5) Mr. DeSaulnier offered an amendment that requires a GAO report three years after enactment and every three years thereafter. The DeSaulnier amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, H.R. 5925, as amended, was ordered favorably reported, by voice vote.

H.R. 5415 (Walker), GAO–IG Act: Mr. Walker offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to

by voice vote. The bill, H.R. 5415, as amended, was ordered favorably reported, by voice vote.

H.R. 2648 (Stivers), Veterans Transition Improvement Act: Mr. Russell offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, H.R. 2648, as amended, was ordered favorably reported, by voice vote.

H.R. 5321 (Moulton), Too Long; Didn't Read Act of 2018: Mr. Gianforte offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, H.R. 5321, as amended, was ordered favorably reported, by voice vote.

H.R. 5896 (Hurd), Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Amendments Act of 2018: Mr. Hurd offered an amendment that fixes two technical reference issues in the bill by: 1) inserting guidance on alternative work schedules for agents at the level 2 and basic rates of pay to conform with current law; and 2) clarifying the Office of Personnel Management has the authority to regulate the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. The bill, H.R. 5896, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

H. Res. 877 (Gomez), A Resolution of inquiry directing the Secretary of Commerce to provide certain documents in the Secretary's possession to the House of Representatives relating to the decision to include a question on citizenship in the 2020 decennial census of population: The resolution, H. Res. 877, was ordered adversely reported, with the recommendation the resolution not be agreed to by the House, by a record vote of 20–16 (Vote #1).

The following postal naming bills were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 4407 (Hultgren), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3s101 Rockwell Street in Warrenville, Illinois, as the "Corporal Jeffery Allen Williams Post Office Building";
- H.R. 4946 (Correa), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1075 North Tustin Street in Orange, California, as the "Specialist Trevor A. Win'E Post Office";
- H.R. 5205 (Kihuen), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 6th Street in Hawthorne, Nevada, as the "Sergeant Kenneth Eric Bostic Post Office";
- H.R. 5238 (Clarke), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1234 Saint John's Place in Brooklyn, New York, as the "Major Robert Odell Owens Post Office;"
- H.R. 5349 (Cohen), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1320 Autumn Avenue in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Judge Russell B. Sugarmon Post Office Building (as amended);"
- H.R. 5412 (King–NY), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 2nd Avenue in Brentwood, New York, as the "Army Specialist Jose L. Ruiz Post Office Building";
- H.R. 5504 (Newhouse), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4801 West Van

Giesen Street in West Richland, Washington, as the “Sergeant Dietrich Schmieman Post Office Building”;

- H.R. 5737 (Bustos), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West D Street in Alpha, Illinois, as the “Captain Joshua E. Steele Post Office”; and

- H.R. 5784 (Moore), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2650 North Doctor Martin Luther King Drive in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the “Vel R. Phillips Post Office Building.”

July 17, 2018—Business Meeting

H.R. 559 (Loudermilk), Modern Employment Reform, Improvement, and Transformation (MERIT) Act of 2017: Mr. Mitchell offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. H.R. 559, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by a record vote of 19–11 (VOTE #1).

H.R. 6391 (Hice), Merit Systems Protection Board Reauthorization Act of 2018: H.R. 6391, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by a record vote of 20–12 (VOTE #2).

H.R. 5300 (Palmer), Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2018: H.R. 5300 was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

The following postal naming bills were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 4913 (Harris), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 816 East Salisbury Parkway in Salisbury, Maryland, as the “Sgt. Maj. Wardell B. Turner Post Office Building;”

- H.R. 5395 (Collins), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 Main Street in Dansville, New York, as the “Staff Sergeant Alexandria Gleason-Morrow Post Office Building;”

- H.R. 5868 (Gibbs), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 Claremont Avenue in Ashland, Ohio, as the “Bill Harris Post Office;”

- H.R. 5935 (Rodney Davis) A Bill to designate the facility at the United States Postal Service located at 1355 North Meridian Drive in Harristown, Illinois, as the “Logan S. Palmer Post Office;”

- H.R. 6020 (Bishop–MI), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 325 South Michigan Avenue in Howell, Michigan, as the “Sergeant Donald Burgett Post Office Building;”

- H.R. 6059 (Moulton), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 51 Willow Street in Lynn, Massachusetts, as the “Thomas P. Costin, Jr. Post Office Building;”

- H.R. 6116 (Moolenaar), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 362 North Ross Street in Beaverton, Michigan, as the “Colonel Alfred Asch Post Office.”

September 27, 2018—Business Meeting

H.R. 5381 (Royce), Government Risk and Taxpayer Exposure Reduction (GRATER) Act of 2018: Mr. Ross offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The amendment was agreed to by a record vote of 13–7 (Vote #1): H.R. 5381, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

H.R. 6891 (Mitchell), Anti-Deficiency Reform and Enforcement Act of 2018: The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a record vote of 14–11 (VOTE #2).

H.R. 6893 (Russell), A Bill to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exemption through 2019, and for other purposes: Mr. Cummings offered an amendment that increases the life of the premium pay cap waiver from 2019 to 2020. The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. H.R. 6893, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

H.R. 5759 (Khanna), 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act: Mr. Russell offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). The ANS was agreed to by voice vote, and the bill, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House, by voice vote.

H.R. 6901 (Hurd), Federal CIO Authorization Act of 2018: The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent.

H.R. 6777 (Palmer), Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2018: The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent.

H.R. 3154 (Richmond), Inspector General Access Act of 2017: The bill was ordered reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent.

H.R. 1272 (Rush), Cold Case Record Collections Act of 2017: The bill, as amended by an amendment in the nature of a substitute, was ordered reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent.

The following postal naming bills were reported favorably to the House by unanimous consent:

- H.R. 5791 (Coffman), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9609 South University Boulevard in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, as the “Deputy Sheriff Zackari Spurlock Parrish, III, Post Office Building;”
- H.R. 5792 (Coffman), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 North 4th Avenue in Brighton, Colorado, as the “Deputy Sheriff Heath McDonald Gumm Post Office (AS AMENDED);”
- H.R. 6216 (Tipton), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3025 Woodgate Road in Montrose, Colorado, as the “Sergeant David Kinterknecht Post Office;”
- H.R. 6217 (Tipton), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 241 N 4th Street in Grand Junction, Colorado, as the “Deputy Sheriff Derek Geer Post Office Building;”
- H.R. 6428 (Gottheimer), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 332 Ramapo Valley

Road in Oakland, New Jersey, as the “Frank Leone Post Office;”

- H.R. 6513 (Brooks–AL), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1110 West Market Street in Athens, Alabama, as the “Judge James E. Horton, Jr. Post Office Building;”

- H.R. 6591 (Demings), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 South Kirkman Road in Orlando, Florida, as the “Napoleon ‘Nap’ Ford Post Office Building;”

- H.R. 6621 (Roe), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 530 East Main Street in Johnson City, Tennessee, as the “Major Homer L. Pease Post Office;”

- H.R. 6628 (Smith–WA), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4301 Northeast 4th Street in Renton, Washington, as the “James Marshall ‘Jimi’ Hendrix Post Office Building;” and

- H.R. 6780 (Castor), A Bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7521 Paula Drive in Tampa, Florida, as the “Major Andreas O’Keeffe Post Office Building.”

II. HEARINGS HELD

Pursuant to House Rule XI, cl. 1(d)(A) and (E), this section summarizes the Committee’s legislative and oversight hearings held in the 115th Congress and delineates those hearings held pursuant to clauses 2(n), (o), or (p) of Rule XI.

FULL COMMITTEE HEARINGS

February 1, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Empowering the Inspectors General.” The hearing considered challenges inspectors general face when working with federal agencies and departments. The hearing also discussed recent legislative changes enacted by the Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016 (P.L. 114–217) and their impact on the inspector general community and identified areas for future reform. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Chair, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice; The Honorable Kath A. Buller, Executive Chair, Legislation Committee, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Inspector General, Peace Corps; The Honorable Scott S. Dahl, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Labor; The Honorable John Roth, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

February 2, 2017, 9:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Improving Security and Efficiency at OPM and the National Background Investigations Bureau.” The hearing examined the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB) transition, information technology security related to background investigations, and the security clearance investigation process. The hearing also examined the state of information technology and cybersecurity at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in the aftermath of the data breach discovered in 2015. Witnesses: Ms. Kathleen McGettigan,

Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management; Mr. Cord Chase, Chief Information Security Officer, Office of Personnel Management; Mr. Charles Phalen, Director, National Background Investigations Bureau; Mr. David Devries, Chief Information Officer, National Background Investigations Bureau; Mr. Terry Halvorsen, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Defense.

February 7, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Accomplishing Postal Reform in the 115th Congress—H.R. 756, The Postal Service Reform Act of 2017.” The hearing examined the continued need for timely and comprehensive postal reform legislation and discussed provisions that various stakeholders believe are necessary in the Committee’s comprehensive reform bill. The hearing also discussed the U.S. Government Accountability Office’s reporting on the United States Postal Service’s ongoing financial challenges. Witnesses: The Honorable Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General, United States Postal Service; The Honorable Robert G. Taub, Chairman, Postal Regulatory Commission; Ms. Lori Rectanus, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Arthur Sackler, Manager, Coalition for a 21st Century Postal Service; Mr. Fredric V. Rolando, President, National Association of Letter Carriers.

February 15, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “GAO’s 2017 High Risk Report: 34 Programs in Peril.” The hearing reviewed the Government Accountability Office’s 2017 High Risk List. Witness: The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Held pursuant to clause 2(p) of House Rule XI.

March 2, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Transparency at TSA.” This hearing examined the Transportation Security Administration’s (TSA) handling of the Sensitive Security Information program, TSA’s cooperation with Office of Special Counsel investigations, and other related matters. Witnesses: Dr. Huban A. Gowadia, Acting Administrator, Transportation Security Administration; The Honorable John Roth, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; The Honorable Carolyn Lerner, Special Counsel; U.S. Office of Special Counsel. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

March 9, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Reviewing ATF’s Failures in the Death of ICE Agent Jaime Zapata.” This hearing examined the Department’s Office of Inspector General’s investigation and report titled “A Review of Investigations of the Osorio and Barba Firearms Trafficking Rings.” The report details the government’s oversight of the investigation of a firearms trafficking ring that sent weapons to a Mexican drug cartel, members of which murdered Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Jaime Zapata and wounded his partner. The hearing also examined the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives’ cigarette trafficking practices, including the handling of informants and oversight of revenue-generating operations. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice; Mr. Thomas E. Brandon, Acting Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; Mr. Ronald B. Turk, Associate Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) and (o) of House Rule XI.

March 21, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “\$125 Billion in Savings Ignored: Review of DOD’s Efficiency Study.” The hearing examined the Department of Defense’s commissioning and use of an efficiency study conducted by the Defense Business Board (DBB). According to press reports, the DBB’s study outlined ways in which the Department could save \$125 billion over several years. Witnesses: Mr. David Tillotson III, Acting Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense; Mr. Scott Rutherford, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company; Mr. Michael Bayer, Current Chairman Defense, Business Board; Mr. Robert “Bobby” Stein, Former Chairman, Defense Business Board; Mr. Kenneth “Kenny” Klepper, Former Board Member, Defense Business Board; Dr. Lawrence J. Korb, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) and (o) of House Rule XI.

March 22, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Committee to Review Law Enforcement’s Policies on Facial Recognition Technology.” Witnesses: Ms. Kimberly Del Greco, Deputy Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Ms. Diana Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Dr. Charles Romine, Ph.D., Director, Information Technology Lab, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Mr. Alvaro Bedoya, Executive Director, Center on Privacy and Technology Georgetown Law; Mr. Benji Hutchinson, Senior Director, NEC Corporation of America On Behalf of The International Biometrics & Identity Association; Ms. Jennifer Lynch, Senior Staff Attorney, Electronic Frontier Foundation.

March 23, 2017, 10:30 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Legislative Proposals for Fostering Transparency.” The hearing allowed Members to consider legislative proposals aimed at increasing government transparency: the OPEN Government Data Act, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act, and the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac Transparency Act. The Committee examined how subjecting federal agencies, the Federal Reserve, and also Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to more transparent measures, such as data access, audits, and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), will hold those entities more accountable to American taxpayers. Witnesses: Mr. Hudson Hollister, Founder and Executive Director, The Data Coalition; Mr. Norman Singleton, President, Campaign for Liberty; Mr. John Berlau, Senior Fellow, Competitive Enterprise Institute; Mr. Thomas Fitton, President, Judicial Watch; Richard Painter, Professor of Law, University of Minnesota Twin Cities.

March 29, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Federally Funded Cancer Research: Coordination and Innovation.” The hearing highlighted the value to the taxpayer of federally funded medical research, with a focus on initiatives contributing to improved cancer survival rates. Witnesses: Ms. Tammi Carr, Mother of Chad Carr, The ChadTough Foundation; Dr. Mary Beckerle, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer and Director, Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah Medical School; Dr. Elizabeth Jaffee, M.D., Deputy Director, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Tyler Jacks, Ph.D., Director, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

April 4, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Use of Confidential Informants at ATF and DEA." This hearing examined the forthcoming Department of Justice Office of Inspector General (OIG) report on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives' use of confidential informants. The hearing also examined the Drug Enforcement Administration's response to the September 2016 OIG report and recent addendum on the agency's use of confidential informants. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Department of Justice; Mr. Robert Patterson, Acting Principal Deputy Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration; Mr. Ronald B. Turk, Associate Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) and (o) of House Rule XI.

April 5, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Response to the Baton Rouge Flood Disaster: Part II." This hearing served as a follow-up to the Committee's September 9, 2016, hearing on Federal Emergency Management Agency's response to the August 2016 flood disaster in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Specifically, this hearing provided an opportunity for witnesses to update the Committee on recovery efforts and described actions taken to address the areas of improvement identified in the September 2016 hearing. The Committee also examined the effectiveness of temporary housing assistance programs in Baton Rouge, including manufactured housing units and the Shelter at Home program. Witnesses: The Honorable John Bel Edwards, Governor of Louisiana, Mr. Robert J. Fenton, Jr., Acting Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Rear Admiral David Boone, USN, Retired, President, CB&I Federal Services LLC; Mr. Mark Harrell, Emergency Coordinator, Livingston Parish, Louisiana. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

May 3, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Reviewing the FAFSA Data Breach." The hearing examined the cybersecurity incident that has affected the Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) and the information assurance practices and policies of the FAFSA application. In particular, the hearing focused on the operational and cybersecurity decisions made by the Department of Education and the Internal Revenue Service, both before and after this critical tool was taken offline on March 3, 2017. Witnesses: Mr. James W. Runcie, Chief Operating Officer, Office of Federal Student Aid, Department of Education; Mr. Jason K. Gray, Chief Information Officer, Department of Education; The Honorable Ken Corbin, Deputy Commissioner, Wage and Investment Division, Internal Revenue Service; Ms. Gina Garza, Chief Information Officer, Internal Revenue Service; Mr. Tim Camus, Deputy Inspector General, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

May 18, 2017, 9:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Federal Employee Compensation: An Update." The hearing examined the recent Congressional Budget Office report comparing federal pay, benefits, and total compensation to that of the private sector. It also reviewed the current federal compensation system to identify potential areas of improvement and ways to modernize it. Witnesses: Mr. Joseph Kile, Assistant Director for Microeconomic Studies, Congressional Budget Office; Mr. Andrew Biggs, Resident

Scholar, American Enterprise Institute; Ms. Rachel Greszler, Research Fellow in Economics, Budget and Entitlements, The Heritage Foundation; Mr. Robert Goldenkoff, Director of Strategic Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Jacqueline Simon, Policy Director, American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO. Held pursuant to clause 2(o) of House Rule XI.

June 7, 2017, 9:30 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Fast and Furious, Six Years Later.” This hearing examined the events relating to Congress’s investigation into the Department of Justice’s Operation Fast and Furious. Witnesses: The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate; Josephine Terry, Mother of Late Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry; Robert Heyer, Terry Family Spokesman, Cousin of Late Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry; John Dodson, Special Agent, Phoenix Field Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

June 28, 2017, 1:00 p.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Criminal Justice Reform and Efforts to Reduce Recidivism.” The hearing examined current topics in the area of criminal justice reform and initiatives being undertaken at the state and local levels to assist individuals with criminal records with reentry and reducing recidivism. Witnesses: The Honorable Tim Scott, Senator, South Carolina; The Honorable Cory Booker; Senator, New Jersey; Bryan P. Stirling, Director, Department of Corrections, South Carolina; Pastor Omar Jahwar, Founder & CEO Urban Specialists; William C. McGahan, Chairman, Georgia Works!.

July 26, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Office of National Drug Control Policy: Reauthorization in the 115th Congress.” The hearing considered the reauthorization of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), which is uniquely equipped to coordinate drug policy across the federal and state governments. The hearing also explored how ONDCP can accelerate the implementation of effective state programs at the federal level. Additionally, this hearing was an opportunity for Members to hear from law enforcement at the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) about successful strategies in reducing illicit drugs nationwide. Witnesses: Mr. Richard Baum, Acting Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Ms. Diana Maurer, Director of Justice and Law Enforcement Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Dr. Keith Humphreys, Professor of Psychiatry, Stanford University; Mr. Don Flattery, Policy Director, Fed Up! Coalition.

September 26, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Recommendations of the Commission on Evidence Based Policymaking.” The hearing considered the findings and recommendations from the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking (CEP). The CEP was established by the bipartisan Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission Act of 2016, jointly sponsored by Speaker Paul Ryan and Senator Patty Murray, to explore ways that existing data may improve how government programs operate. Witnesses: Ron Haskins, Ph.D., Co-Chair, Commission on Evidence-Based Policy Making; Katharine G. Abraham, Ph.D., Chair, Commission on Evidence-Based Policy Making; Latanya Sweeney, Ph.D., Commissioner, Commission on Evidence-Based Policy Making; Robert Shea, Esq., Commissioner, Commission on Evidence-Based Policy Making.

October 12, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Hearing on the 2020 Census." The hearing examined whether the Bureau's estimated \$5 billion in savings is accurate, and what preventative steps may be required to prevent potential cost overruns. The hearing also reviewed the Bureau's progress in procuring and implementing the information technology systems needed for the 2020 Decennial Census. Witnesses: Panel I: The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce. Panel II: Mr. Robert Goldenkoff, Director of Strategic Issues, Census Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. David A. Powner, Director of Information Technology Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Carol N. Rice, Assistant Inspector General, Office of Economic and Statistical Program Assessment, U.S. Department of Commerce; Ms. Vanita Gupta, President and CEO, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

November 15, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Recommendations and Reforms from the Inspectors General." The hearing provided an opportunity to discuss implementation of the Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-317) and the impact of this law on the community of inspectors general. The hearing also provided an opportunity to discuss ongoing management and access challenges and identified areas for reform. In addition, the hearing allowed members to hear directly from the inspectors general on their ongoing oversight work throughout the federal government. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Chair, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice; The Honorable Kathy A. Buller, Executive Chair, Legislation Committee, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Inspector General, Peace Corps; The Honorable John Roth, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

November 28, 2017, 12:30 p.m. Full Committee field hearing titled, "Combating the Opioid Crisis." This hearing was an opportunity to discuss efforts to combat the current opioid crisis. The hearing also reviewed the recent report issued by the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, which provides findings and recommendations on how the federal government could better address the crisis. Witnesses: Panel I: The Honorable Chris Christie, Governor of New Jersey. Panel II: Mr. Richard Baum, Acting Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Dr. Leana Wen, Health Commissioner, Baltimore City Health Department; Dr. Caleb Alexander, Co-Director, Center for Drug Safety and Effectiveness Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

December 13, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons and Inmate Reentry." This hearing was an opportunity for the Committee to conduct oversight of federal inmates' release and reentry into the community, and to examine reports by the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office on the Bureau of Prisons' reentry policies and procedures. Witnesses: The Honorable Mark S. Inch, Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons; The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice; Ms. Diana Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Jennifer

Doleac, Assistant Professor of Public Policy & Economics, Director, Justice Tech Lab; University of Virginia; Ms. Cynthia W. Roseberry, Executive Director, Council for Court Excellence; Mr. Glenn E. Martin, President and Founder, JustLeadershipUSA. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

February 27, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Federalism Implications of Treating States as Stakeholders.” The hearing, in collaboration with the Speaker’s Intergovernmental Task Force, examined the roles of States in relation to federal decision making. Specifically, the hearing explored ways in which federal agencies engage with States in the course of implementing federal law and policies, and activities affecting the federal-state relationship. Witnesses: The Honorable Gary Richard Herbert, Governor of Utah; The Honorable Susana Martinez, Governor of New Mexico; The Honorable Clement Leroy Otter, Governor of Idaho.

March 14, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Shining Light on the Federal Regulatory Process.” Federal rulemaking and regulatory activities are governed by a variety of statutes and executive directives designed to require federal agencies to engage in certain practices, such as seeking public comment on a regulatory proposal. The hearing highlighted agency rulemaking and guidance practices, and whether agencies routinely comply with applicable statutes and law. Witnesses: Ms. Kris Nguyen, Acting Director for Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Mr. Paul Noe, Vice President, Public Policy, American Forest and Paper Association; Ms. Karen Harned, Executive Director, National Federation of Independent Business; Small Business Legal Center; Professor Nicholas Parrillo, Professor of Law, Yale Law School; Mr. Amit Narang, Regulatory Policy Advocate, Public Citizen.

April 18, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Top management and Performance Challenges Identified Government-Wide by the Inspector General Community.” The hearing examined the first Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) report of top management and performance challenges identified by the Inspector General (IG) community. The hearing also provided an opportunity to discuss the top management challenges most frequently reported by the IG community, and allowed each IG to speak on specific examples of these challenges within their agency. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Chair, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice; The Honorable Allison Lerner, Vice Chair, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Inspector General, National Science Foundation; The Honorable Glenn Fine, Principal Deputy Inspector General, U.S. Department of Defense. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) and (o) of House Rule XI.

April 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Waste and Inefficiency in the Federal Government: GAO’s 2018 Duplication Report.” The hearing examined the findings of the Government Accountability Office’s annual report on areas of duplication, overlap, and fragmentation within federal government programs that was issued on April 25, 2018, and prior reports dating back to 2011. Witness: The Honorable Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

May 8, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Progress Report on the 2020 Census.” With less than two years until the full census count begins, the hearing scrutinized the Department of Commerce and Census Bureau ongoing preparations for the 2020 census. The hearing also examined the current status of the 2018 End-to-End Census Test and deployment of IT systems in advance of the test. Witnesses: Mr. Earl Comstock, Director of the Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, U.S. Department of Commerce; Ron S. Jarmin, Ph.D., Acting Director, U.S. Census Bureau; Mr. David A. Powner, Director of Information Technology Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Robert Goldenkoff, Director of Strategic Issues, Census Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Justin Levitt, Associate Dean for Research, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles; Mr. John M. Gore, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

May 16, 2018, 1:30 p.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Workforce for the 21st Century: Analyzing the President’s Management Agenda.” The hearing allowed Members of the Committee to hear from outside stakeholders on the workforce modernization provisions of the President’s Management Agenda. Members learned how the Agenda fits into ongoing government reorganization efforts and discussed the Administration’s vision for a modern, efficient, effective, and accountable federal government. Witnesses: Panel I: The Honorable Margaret Weichert, Deputy Director for Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget; The Honorable Jeff Pon, Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Panel II: Mr. Bill Valdez, President, Senior Executives Association; Mr. Max Stier, President and CEO, Partnership for Public Service; Ms. Jacqueline Simon, Policy Director, American Federation of Government Employees.

May 17, 2018, 11:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “A Sustainable Solution to the Evolving Opioid Crisis: Revitalizing the Office of National Drug Control Policy.” The hearing provided Members the opportunity to discuss reauthorizing the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to more effectively elevate evidence-based initiatives to combat the current opioid crisis. Witnesses: Panel I: The Honorable John Cornyn, Senator from Texas and Senate Majority Whip. Panel II: Anand Parekh, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Advisor, Bipartisan Policy Center; Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, MBA, FACP, Commissioner and State Health Officer, Department of Health and Human Resources’ Bureau for Public Health, State of West Virginia; Mr. Thomas Carr, Executive Director, Washington/Baltimore, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program; Ms. Gretta Goodwin, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, U.S. Government Accountability Office.

June 19, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee joint hearing with Judiciary titled, “Oversight of the FBI and DOJ Actions in Advance of the 2016 Election.” This hearing was an opportunity for the Committees to conduct oversight and obtain additional information about the election-related review the DOJ IG initiated in January 2017. Witness: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

June 27, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Examining the Administration's Government-Wide Reorganization Plan." This hearing examined the upcoming government-wide reform plan called for in the President's March 13, 2017, Executive Order, which was publicly released the week of June 18. Members learned how the reform plan creates a federal government that meets the needs of the American people and discussed the Administration's vision for a modern, efficient, effective, and accountable federal government. Witness: The Honorable Margaret Weichert, Deputy Director for Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

July 12, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee joint with the House Judiciary Committee hearing titled, "Oversight of FBI and DOJ Actions Surrounding the 2016 Election: Testimony by FBI Deputy Assistant Director Peter Strzok." This hearing examined the actions taken and decisions made by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Deputy Assistant Director Peter Strzok, during his tenure as a top counterintelligence investigator. Witness: Peter Strzok, Deputy Assistant Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

July 24, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Cyber-Securing the Vote: Ensuring the Integrity of the U.S. Election System." The hearing assessed the role of the federal government, states, and localities in safeguarding the integrity of the U.S. election system. The hearing also determined what actions must be taken ahead of the 2018 midterm elections to ensure the voting process is secure. Witnesses: The Honorable Christopher Krebs, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; The Honorable Thomas Hicks, Commissioner, U.S. Election Assistance Commission; The Honorable Maggie Toulouse Oliver, Secretary of State, New Mexico; The Honorable Ricky Hatch, County Auditor, Weber County, Utah.

September 26, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Examining Misconduct and Retaliation at TSA." The hearing examined the Committee's findings into senior level misconduct and whistleblower retaliation at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Witness: The Honorable David Pekoske, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

November 15, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "Examining Misconduct and Retaliation at the U.S. Forest Service." The hearing examined the U.S. Forest Service's response to allegations of misconduct, sexual harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. Witnesses: Ms. Vicki Christiansen, Chief, U.S. Forest Service; The Honorable Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Ms. Shannon Reed, Air Quality Specialist, Former Employee, U.S. Forest Service. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

November 28, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Full Committee hearing titled, "BOP Management of Its Female Inmate Population, and Other Challenges." This hearing evaluated the Bureau of Prisons' (BOP) response to findings and recommendations from the Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Inspector General (IG). The hearing also examined how BOP intends to hold its leaders accountable for wrongdoing, and uphold the ideals of professionalism, safety, and integ-

riety within the federal prison system. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Justice; Mr. Hugh J. Hurwitz, Acting Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

November 29, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Full Committee hearing titled, “Evaluating Federal Disaster Response and Recovery Efforts.” The hearing examined the U.S. government’s response to the 2017 hurricane season, including efforts to aid affected survivors and communities. The hearing also discussed lessons-learned and additional opportunities to improve federal natural disaster-related programs. Witnesses: The Honorable William B. “Brock” Long, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Major General Scott A. Spellmon, Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Dr. Lynn Goldman, Michael and Lori Milken Dean, Milken Institute of Public Health, George Washington University. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

March 29, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “WMATA After SafeTrack.” The hearing examined the planned final stages of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority’s (WMATA) SafeTrack program, as well as WMATA’s plans for the Back2Good initiative. The hearing also reviewed WMATA’s financial situation, including the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget. Witnesses: Mr. Paul Wiedefeld, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Mr. Dennis Anosike, Chief Financial Officer, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Dr. Mark L. Goldstein, Ph.D., Director of Physical Infrastructure Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office.

April 6, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “The Best and Worst Places to Work in the Federal Government.” The annual hearing examined the 2016 Best Places to Work in the Federal Government rankings assembled by the Partnership for Public Service and the associated Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey administered by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. The Committee wished to study recent trends revealed by the data and ways to ensure positive growth in employee engagement at agencies. Witnesses: Ms. Roberta Jeanquart, Director of the Office of Human Resources Management, Chief Human Capital Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Ms. Lacey Dingman, Director of the Office of Human Resources, Chief Human Capital Officer, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Ms. Angela Bailey, Chief Human Capital Officer, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Mr. Lee Gardner, Managing Director, U.S. Surface Transportation Board; Ms. Veronica Villalobos, Principal Deputy Associate Director—Employee Services, Acting Executive Director, Chief Human Capital Officers Council, U.S. Office of Personnel Management; Mr. Max Stier, President and CEO, Partnership for Public Service. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

April 26, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Reviewing the Unintended Consequences of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act.” The hearing examined the consequences of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) for expatriates, as well

as its effects on tax revenue, and tax compliance costs. The hearing discussed potential legislative proposals to alleviate negative impacts on Americans living abroad. Witnesses: The Honorable Rand Paul, U.S. Senator, State of Kentucky; Mr. James Bopp, Jr., Attorney, The Bopp Law Firm, PC; Mr. Mark Crawford, Director, AKSIONER International Security Brokerage; Mr. Daniel Kuettel, Former U.S. citizen living in Switzerland who renounced his U.S. citizenship due to FATCA; Ms. Elise Bean, Washington Co-Director, Levin Center at Wayne Law Wayne State University.

September 7, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining the Shipment of Illicit Drugs in International Mail.” The hearing explored how international drug traffickers exploit discrepancies in security standards between the U.S. Postal Service and its private express counterparts for international mail to ship contraband into the United States. Witnesses: The Honorable Gregory Thome, Director, Office of U.N. Specialized and Technical Agencies, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, U.S. Department of State; Mr. Guy Cottrell, Chief Postal Inspector, United States Postal Service; Mr. Todd C. Owen, Executive Assistant, Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; Ms. Lori Rectanus, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Tammy Whitcomb, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

October 11, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Security Clearance Investigation Challenges and Reforms.” The hearing examined the current security clearance investigation backlog, as well as ongoing reform efforts at the National Background Investigations Bureau and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. Members of the Subcommittee had an opportunity to discuss potential changes to the clearance investigation process and questioned experts inside and outside of the federal government on the status of the backlog and strategies for reducing the backlog. Witnesses: Mr. Charles S. Phalen, Jr., Director, National Background Investigations Bureau, Office of Personnel Management; Mr. Garry P. Reid, Director of Defense Intelligence, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, U.S. Department of Defense; Mr. William R. Evanina, Director, National Counterintelligence and Security Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Mr. A.R. “Trey” Hodgkins III, Senior Vice, President, Public Sector, Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector.

February 15, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “General Services Administration—Checking in the with the Government’s Acquisition and Property Manager.” The hearing examined the GSA’s administration and management of federal acquisition programs and reforms as well as the agency’s efforts to improve its management of federal real property, particularly initiatives aimed at reducing the federal government’s real property portfolio. The subcommittee heard about efforts to improve federal acquisition, including cost savings and modernization efforts. The subcommittee also heard about GSA plans to recruit and retain a high quality acquisition, real property, and IT workforce, including any reorganization plans. Witnesses: The Honorable Emily W. Murphy, Administrator, General Services Administration; The Honorable Alan B. Thomas, Jr., Commissioner, Federal Acquisition

Service, General Services Administration; The Honorable Dan Mathews, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration; The Honorable Carol F. Ochoa, Inspector General, General Services Administration.

April 19, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining Tax-Exempt Private Activity Bonds for All Aboard Florida’s Brightline Passenger Rail System.” The hearing examined the use of \$600 million and \$1.15 billion in tax-exempt private activity bonds to support the Brightline passenger rail system project in Florida, and the broader implications of this type of financing for future infrastructure projects. Additionally, this hearing examined the safety implications of the Brightline passenger rail system project and its impact on the local communities. Witnesses: Mr. Grover Burtney, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation; Mr. Patrick Goddard, President and Chief Operating Officer, All Aboard Florida/Brightline; Mr. Robert Crandall, former CEO, American Airlines; Chief Dan Wouters, Division Chief Emergency Management, Martin County Fire Rescue; Mr. Dylan Reingold, County Attorney, Indian River County. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) and (o) of House Rule XI.

May 24, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Union Time on the People’s Dime: A Closer Look at Official Time.” The hearing examined the use of union “official time”—paid time off for federal employees to represent a union or its bargaining unit employees during work hours in lieu of their regular duties. The hearing: (1) highlighted findings from agency responses to the Committee’s January 9, 2018, letter requesting official time data, (2) identified official time usage at agencies across government, (3) reviewed problems associated with official time data reporting, and (4) considered possible official time reforms. Witnesses: Mr. Trey Kovacs, Policy Analyst, Competitive Enterprise Institute; Mr. Bob Gilson, Senior Labor and Employee Relations Consultant and Author; Mr. Darrell M. West, Vice President and Director of Governance Studies, Brookings Institution.

December 13, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Oversight of Nonprofit Organizations: A Case Study on the Clinton Foundation.” The hearing discussed the management of 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and how the designation impacts the programs and activities a nonprofit is allowed to conduct. Witnesses: Panel I: Tom Fitton, President, Judicial Watch; Mr. Phillip Hackney, Associate Professor of Law, University of Pittsburgh. Panel II: Mr. Lawrence W. Doyle, Managing Partner, DM Income Advisors; Mr. John F. Moynihan, Principal, JFM and Associates.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTHCARE, BENEFITS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

January 31, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Fraud, Waste and Abuse Under the Affordable Care Act.” The hearing examined the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and the impact of the law on the health insurance marketplace. Witnesses: Ms. Vicki Robinson, Senior Counselor for Policy, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Mr. John Dicken Director, Health Care, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Jonathan

W. Siegel, Citizen, Rochester, NY. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

March 22, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining the Impact of Voluntary Restricted Distribution Systems in the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain.” The hearing examined the use of restricted distribution systems in the pharmaceutical supply chain and the potential for some companies to use restricted distribution systems to delay generic competition in certain instances. Witnesses: Dr. Janet Woodcock, Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration; Mr. Bruce Leicher, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Momenta Pharmaceuticals, Testifying on behalf of the Association for Accessible Medicines (AAM); Dr. Gerard Anderson, Director, Center for Hospital Finance and Management, Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Mr. David Mitchell, President and Founder, Patients for Affordable Drugs.

April 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Local Responses and Resources to Curtail the Opioid Epidemic.” The hearing examined local efforts and resources to address the ongoing opioid epidemic. This hearing also assessed state and federal coordination to curtail this crisis, focusing on how federal grant programs can assist localities struggling to address opioid use and other drug crises. Witnesses: Ms. Amy Haskins, Project Director, Jackson County Anti-Drug Coalition; Ms. Lisa Roberts, Coordinator, Scioto County Drug Action Team Alliance; Mr. Derek Siegle, Executive Director, Ohio HIDTA; Ms. Karen Ayala, Lead Staff, DuPage HOPE (Heroin/Opioid Prevention and Education) Task-Force.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERIOR, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT

February 15, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining Federal Programs that Serve Tribes and their Members.” The hearing reviewed recent studies and analyses conducted by the Government Accountability Office and the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General on the management of federal programs that serve tribes and their members. Witnesses: Mr. Frank Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Energy and Science Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; The Honorable Mary Kendall, Deputy Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Interior; The Honorable Tyson Thompson, Councilman, Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

March 21, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining GAO Findings on Deficiencies at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.” The hearing reviewed recent studies and reports conducted by the Government Accountability Office on leadership and management at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. Witnesses: Mr. Richard T. Cardinale, Acting Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management, U.S. Department of the Interior; Mr. Frank Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment-Energy Issues, Government Accountability Office. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

April 5, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Improving the Visitor Experience at National Parks.” This hearing examined

ways to improve the visitor experience at national parks. Witnesses: Mr. Glenn Casamassa, Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Ms. Linda Lanterman, Director of the Division of State Parks, State of Kansas; Mr. Chris Edmonston, President, BoatU.S. Foundation; Mr. Rick Cables, Vice President of Natural Resources and Conservation, Vail Resorts.

May 2, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining the Management of Red Snapper Fishing in the Gulf of Mexico.” This hearing examined management issues with red snapper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. Witnesses: Mr. Earl Comstock, Director, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, U.S. Department of Commerce; Mr. Jamie M. Miller, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources State of Mississippi; Mr. Christopher Brown, President, Seafood Harvesters of America; Mr. Mark Ray, Vice Chairman, Coastal Conservation Association.

September 26, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining America’s Nuclear Waste Management and Storage.” This hearing examined the issue of nuclear waste storage and disposal. Specifically, the committee focused on the needs and challenges of communities currently holding this waste. Witnesses: Mr. Anthony J. O’Donnell, Commissioner, Maryland Public Service Commission, Chair, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues—Waste Disposal; Mr. Chuck Smith, Councilmember, Aiken County, South Carolina, On behalf of Energy Communities Alliance; Mr. David G. Victor, Chairman, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Community Engagement Panel, Professor, UC San Diego School of Global Policy & Strategy; Dr. Edwin Lyman, Senior Scientist, Global Security Program, Union of Concerned Scientists; Ms. Katie Tubb, Policy Analyst, Institute for Economic Freedom, The Heritage Foundation.

November 2, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining the Regulation of Shark Finning in the United States.” This hearing examined the effects of the practice of shark finning. Specifically, the hearing considered the issue from an international and domestic perspective, including existing laws and loopholes, and issues related to enforcement of those laws. Witnesses: Ms. Lora Snyder, Campaign Director, Oceana, International Headquarters; Assistant Commander Brandi L. Reeder, Fisheries Law Administrator, Law Enforcement Division, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Alistair D.M. Dove, Ph.D., Vice President of Research and Conservation, Georgia Aquarium.

March 6, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.” The hearing will examine how USACE can improve communication and interaction with local communities where it conducts its work and projects. Witnesses: James C. Dalton, SES, Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mr. Sean Strawbridge, Chief Executive Officer, Port of Corpus Christi Authority; Ms. Kirsten Mickelsen, Executive Director, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association; Mr. Jim Weakley, President, Lake Carriers’ Association.

March 12, 2018, 9:30 a.m. Subcommittee field hearing titled, “The Historic 2017 Hurricane Season: Impacts on the U.S. Virgin Islands.” The hearing examined the effects of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as highlighted response

and recovery efforts in the territory. Witnesses: Panel 1: Senator Myron D. Jackson, Senate President, U.S. Virgin Islands Legislature; Senator Tregenza A. Roach, U.S. Virgin Islands Legislature. Panel 2: Mr. William “Bill” Vogel, Federal Coordinating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Mr. Murad “Mojo” Raheem, ASPR Regional Emergency Coordinator, Region 2, Department of Health and Human Services; COL Scott Heintzleman, Defense Coordinating Officer for FEMA Region II, Department of Defense; COL Robert J. Clark, Commander, USACE Field Recovery Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mr. Randy Lavasseur, Caribbean Group Superintendent, National Park Service; Mr. Henry “Hank” Dynka, Manager, In-Plant Support, Northeast Area Operations, U.S. Postal Service. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

March 15, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “An Examination of Federal Permitting Processes.” The hearing examined federal permitting processes, focusing on the National Environmental Protection Act and the Clean Water Act. The hearing provided a forum to identify problems and inefficiencies within those processes, highlighting why reforms are necessary. Witnesses: Mr. James Iwanicki, PE, Engineer-Manager, Marquette County Road Commission; Ms. Valerie Wilkinson, CPA, Vice President and CFO, The ESG Companies; Mr. Kevin DeGood, Director, Infrastructure Policy, Center for American Progress; Ms. Diane Katz, Senior Research Fellow in Regulatory Policy, The Heritage Foundation.

June 26, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Access to Public Lands: The Effects of Forest Service Road Closures.” The purpose of this hearing was to examine the effects of Forest Service policies on access to federally owned land. The hearing also focused on the challenges of addressing access issues through coordination with the Forest Service. Witnesses: The Honorable Kerry White, Representative, Montana House of Representatives; Mr. Bill Harvey, Commission Chair, Baker County, Oregon; Ms. Amy Granat, Managing Director, California Off-Road Vehicle Association; Mr. Jim Furnish, Consulting Forester.

July 17, 2018, Subcommittee hearing titled, “Tribal Energy Resources: Reducing Barriers to Opportunity.” The hearing explored management challenges imposed by the fragmented regulatory process for energy development on tribal lands. Witnesses: Mr. Eric Henson, Executive Vice President, Compass Lexecon, Research Affiliate, The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development Visiting Senior Scholar, The Harvard University Native American Program; The Honorable Alvin Not Afraid, Jr., Chairman, Crow Tribe of Indians; The Honorable Adam Red, Councilman, Southern Ute Indian Tribe; Mr. Christopher Clark Deschene, Partner, Rosette, LLP.

July 24, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Preserving Opportunities for Grazing on Federal Land.” The hearing examined challenges faced by ranchers seeking to graze livestock on federal land and identified opportunities for more productive range management practices. Witnesses: Mr. Dave Eliason, President, Public Lands Council; Mr. John Helle, Owner Partner, Helle Livestock; Mr. Scott Horngren, Staff Attorney & Adjunct Professor, Western Resources Legal Center; Honorable Shannon Wheeler, Chairman, Nez Perce Tribe.

September 27, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Restoring Balance to Environmental Litigation.” The hearing examined special-interest environmental litigation against federal agencies and identified reforms to curb excessive litigation and the abuse of fee shifting statutes such as the Equal Access to Justice Act. Witnesses: Mr. Jonathan Brightbill, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice; Mr. Lawson Fite, General Counsel, American Forest Resource Counsel; Mr. Ryan Yates, Director of Congressional Relations, American Farm Bureau Federation; Ms. Sara A. Colangelo, Environment Law and Policy Program Director, Visiting Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS

April 26, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Unfunded Mandates: Examining Federally Imposed Burdens on State and Local Governments.” The Committee evaluated numerous federal unfunded mandates and how those unfunded mandates impacted state and local governments. The hearing followed up to the Committee’s December 2016 request to state and local government partners for information relating to federal unfunded mandates that impose burdens on state and local governments, and associated costs or compliance challenges. Witnesses: The Honorable Wayne Niederhauser, President, Utah State Senate; The Honorable Jim Davis, Senator, North Carolina State Senate; The Honorable Gary Moore, Judge/Executive, Boone County, Kentucky; The Honorable Jermaine Reed, Councilman, City of Kansas City, Missouri; The Honorable Jeff McKay, Supervisor, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Alexandria, Virginia.

October 3, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security of the Committee on Homeland Security titled, “Innovations in Security: Examining the Use of Canines.” The hearing reviewed the use of canines, explored the procurement process, and addressed issues with the supply of canines. Witnesses: Ms. Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations, American Kennel Club; Lieutenant Scott R. Smith, Orlando Police Department, Orlando, Florida; Cynthia M. Otto, DVM, Ph.D., Executive Director, Penn Vet Working Dog Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

July 25, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs titled, “Federal Grant Management.” The hearing examined opportunities to modernize the federal grantmaking process. Witnesses: Mr. Hudson Hollister, Executive Director, Data Coalition; Ms. Michelle Sager, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Ms. Andrea L. Brandon, MPA, Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of Grants and Acquisition Policy and Accountability OS/ASFR/OGAPA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Mr. Peter Tyler, Senior Policy Advisor, Project on Government Oversight; Ms. Natalie Keegan, Analyst American Federalism and Emergency Management, Congressional Research Service.

December 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Examining ‘Backdoor’ Spending by Federal Agencies.” This hearing

examined the extent to which federal agencies use backdoor spending to avoid the annual appropriations process. The hearing also explored how backdoor spending undermines Congress' authority and what Congress can do to reassert its authority over the power of the purse. Witnesses: Ms. Tranchau (Kris) T. Nguyen, Director of Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Ms. Julia C. Matta, Managing Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. James Wallner, Senior Fellow, Governance Project, R Street Institute; Mr. Robert Weissman, President, Public Citizen. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) and (o) of House Rule XI.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

April 4, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, "Reviewing Federal IT Workforce Challenges and Possible Solutions." The hearing examined the development, recruitment, and retention of the federal government's information technology, and specifically cybersecurity, workforce. Witnesses: Mr. Steven Cooper, Former Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Commerce; Ms. Elizabeth Hyman, Executive Vice President, Public Advocacy, CompTIA; Ms. Lisa Depew, Head of Industry and Academic Outreach, Intel; Mr. Dan Waddell, Managing Director, (ISC)²; Mr. Nick Marinos, Director, Information Technology, Government Accountability Office; Ms. Debora Plunkett, Board Member, Strategic Advisory Board, International Consortium of Minority Cybersecurity Professionals.

May 23, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Subcommittee on Social Security of the Committee on Ways & Means titled, "Protecting American's Identities: Examining Efforts to Limit the Use of Social Security Numbers." The hearing focused on efforts by federal agencies to reduce the use of Social Security numbers (SSNs), and the challenges these agencies face in doing so. Witnesses: Mr. Greg Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Services, Government Accountability Office; Ms. Mariana LaCanfora, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration; Mr. David Devries, Chief Information Officer, Office of Personnel Management; Ms. Karen Jackson, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Mr. John Oswalt, Executive Director for Privacy, Office of Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

June 13, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing titled, "The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) 4.0." This hearing was part of a continuing oversight effort on federal information technology (IT). This effort began with a June 10, 2015, hearing on the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) 2015 designation of IT acquisition as "High Risk" area, and plans for FITARA implementation. The Committee continued this effort with the first FITARA Scorecard hearing on November 4, 2015, the FITARA Scorecard 2.0 hearing on May 18, 2016, and the FITARA Scorecard 3.0 hearing on December 6, 2016. The subcommittees heard details on agencies' progress in FITARA implementation (including data center consolidation, incremental devel-

opment, and portfolio review efforts) and implications for IT acquisition reform and security. Witnesses: Mr. David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Beth Killoran, Deputy Assistant Secretary for IT, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Sheila Conley, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Acting Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Dr. Rick Holgate, Research Director, Gartner, Inc.

October 3, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Cybersecurity of the Internet of Things.” The increasing use of internet connected devices known as the “Internet of Things” poses potential cybersecurity risks. Currently, there is no industry-wide security standard in use for these devices. Senators Mark Warner (D-VA) and Cory Gardner (R-CO) introduced legislation (S. 1691) intended to improve the security of the Internet of Things. This hearing examined the legislation and discussed additional potential strategies for securing the Internet of Things. Witnesses: Mr. Matthew J. Eggers, Executive Director, Cybersecurity Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Tommy Ross, Senior Director of Policy, The Software Alliance (BSA); Mr. Josh Corman, Director of the Cyber Statecraft Initiative, Atlantic Council; Mr. Ray O’Farrell, Chief Technology Officer, VMware.

October 24, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Oversight of Federal Political Advertisement Laws and Regulations.” The hearing examined the regulations and laws for political ad disclaimers and disclosures in traditional and new media. Witnesses: Mr. Allen Dickerson, Legal Director, Center for Competitive Politics; Mr. David Chavern, President and Chief Executive Officer, News Media Alliance; Mr. Jack N. Goodman, Owner, Law Offices of Jack N. Goodman; Mr. Randall Rothenberg, President and Chief Executive Officer, Interactive Advertising Bureau; Mr. Ian Vandewalker, Senior Counsel, Brennan Center for Justice, Democracy Program, New York University School of Law.

December 7, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Oversight of IT and Cybersecurity at the Department of Veterans Affairs.” This hearing was an opportunity for the Committee to conduct oversight of the Veterans Affairs’ information technology systems, including its performance on the most recent FITARA scorecard, the development of an interoperable Electronic Health record, and its VistA modernization efforts. Witnesses: Mr. Scott Blackburn, Acting Chief Information Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Dominic Cussatt, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Bill James, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Enterprise Program Management Office, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. John Windom, Program Executive for Electronic Health Records Modernization, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

February 14, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part I.” Artificial intelligence is increasingly cited as the solution for many of the problems government faces, but few in government understand artificial intelligence or its potential. This hearing addressed artificial intelligence, its development, uses, barriers to deployment and po-

tential for both societal good and harm. Witnesses: Dr. Amir Khosrowshahi, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, Artificial Intelligence Products Group, Intel; Dr. Charles Isbell, Executive Associate Dean and Professor, College of Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology; Dr. Oren Etzioni, Chief Executive Officer, Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence; Dr. Ian Buck, Vice President and General Manager, Tesla Data Center Business, NVIDIA.

March 7, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part II, Artificial Intelligence and the Federal Government.” The hearing examined the federal government’s engagement of artificial intelligence. The discussion centered on artificial intelligence research and development, adoption of artificial intelligence technologies and policies affected by artificial intelligence. Witnesses: John O. Everett, Ph.D., Deputy Director Information Innovation Office, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, U.S. Department of Defense; Mr. Keith Nakasone, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Acquisition, Office of Information Technology Category, Federal Acquisition Service, U.S. General Services Administration; James F. Kurose, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Computer and Information Science and Engineering, National Science Foundation; Douglas Maughan, Ph.D., Division Director Cybersecurity Division, Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

March 20, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee Joint hearing before the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure of the Committee on Homeland Security titled, “CDM: Government Perspectives on Security and Modernization.” This hearing examined the status of the Department of Homeland Security’s Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) program rollout at specific agencies. This hearing also examined impediments to full deployment of CDM, such as the lack of funds, lack of training, and issues with contracting vehicles and shared services. Witnesses: Mr. Max Everett, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Energy; Mr. Scott Blackburn, Executive in Charge, Office of Information and Technology, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. David Garcia, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Office of Personnel Management; Mr. Kevin Cox, CDM Program Manager, Office of Cybersecurity and Communications, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

April 18, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part III, Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy.” The hearing was an opportunity for Members to discuss the private and public responses to the barriers that artificial intelligence faces. Witnesses discussed potential solutions to workforce, ethics, privacy, bias and global competitiveness and the role the government should play when addressing these concerns. Witnesses: Gary Shapiro, President, Consumer Technology Association; Jack Clark, Director, OpenAI; Terah Lyons, Executive Director, Partnership on AI; Ben Buchanan, Postdoctoral Fellow, Cyber Security Project, Science, Technology, and Public Policy Program; Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School.

September 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Countering China: Ensuring America Remains the World Leader

in Advanced Technologies and Innovation.” This hearing discussed the effects Chinese trade practices have on American companies working to enter Chinese markets and examined how to protect American economic and security interests. Witnesses: John Neuffer, President and Chief Executive Officer, Semiconductor Industry Association; Robert Atkinson, Ph.D, President, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation; Dean Cheng, Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, The Heritage Foundation; Sarah Cook, Senior Research Analyst, Freedom House.

HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

March 1, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “VA: Path to Reform.” At this hearing, the Subcommittee examined the policies and procedures of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as they relate to recent issues regarding fraud, waste and abuse. This hearing also addressed strategies for future reform and the new leadership’s vision of improving practices within all of the agencies in the Department. Witnesses: Mrs. Pamela Mitchell, Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Human Resources and Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Mr. Nich Dahl, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; Dr. Irene Barnett, Ph.D., Director of the Bedford Office for Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

April 5, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Assessing the Iran Deal.” This hearing examined the Iranian noncompliance with the terms of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and UN Security Council Resolution 2231 as well as Iran’s regional aggression. Witnesses: Lieutenant General Michael Barbero, U.S. Army, Retired, Advisory Board Member, United Against Nuclear Iran; Mr. David Albright, President, Institute for Science and International Security; Mr. Mark Dubowitz, Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Defense of Democracies; Ray Takeyh, Ph.D., Hasib J. Sabbagh Senior Fellow for Middle East Studies, Council on Foreign Relations; Jim Walsh, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

April 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “The Border Wall: Strengthening Our National Security.” The hearing examined the potential benefits from the U.S. border wall and addressed the wall’s impact on national security. The National Security Subcommittee investigated the wall’s possible reduction of illegal aliens and crime. Witnesses: Dr. Steven Camarota, Ph.D., Director of Research, Center for Immigration Studies; Mr. Brandon Judd, President, National Border Patrol Council; Ms. Maria Espinoza, Director, The Remembrance Project; Ms. Agnes Gibboney, Mother whose son was killed by an illegal immigrant; The Honorable Seth Stodder, Former Assistant Secretary, Border, Immigration, & Trade Policy U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

July 27, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Combating Homegrown Terrorism.” The hearing examined what the United States can do to counter the threat of violent extremism within domestic communities. This hearing also sought answers from witnesses on the strengths and weaknesses of current countering violent extremism programs and identified potential stra-

tegic improvements. Witnesses: Mr. Kerry Sleeper, Assistant Director, Office of Partner Engagement, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Mr. George Selim, Director of Countering Violent Extremism, Department of Homeland Security; Ms. Raheel Raza, President, Muslims Facing Tomorrow; Mr. Adnan Kifayat, Director, Global Security Ventures, Gen Next Foundation; Mr. Seamus Hughes, Deputy Director of Program on Extremism, George Washington University.

October 11, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Review of the U.S. Government’s Role in Protecting International Religious Freedom.” The hearing examined issues related to the state of international religious freedom worldwide and its connection to national security. The hearing also considered the implementation of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act, as well as the legal requirement that the President appoint an Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael G. Kozak, Senior Advisor, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, U.S. Department of State; Ms. Kristina Arriaga de Bucholz, Vice Chair, Commission on International Religious Freedom; Thomas F. Farr, Ph.D., President, Religious Freedom Institute, Director, Religious Freedom Research Project, Georgetown University, Associate Professor, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University; Mr. Rob Berschinski, Senior Vice President, Policy, Human Rights First.

November 1, 2017, 10:30 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Overview of 16 Years of Involvement in Afghanistan.” The hearing examined issues related to the state of America’s reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan and the applicable lessons to other security sector assistance missions globally. The hearing considered the recent Special Inspector General for Afghanistan (SIGAR) report released September 21, 2017, entitled “Reconstructing the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces: Lessons from the U.S. Experience in Afghanistan.” Witness: The Honorable John Sopko, Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

November 8, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Moving the American Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem: Challenges and Opportunities.” The hearing examined issues related to the proposed relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. The hearing also considered the implementation of the Jerusalem Embassy Act. Witnesses: The Honorable John Bolton, Senior Fellow, American Enterprise Institute; The Honorable Dore Gold, President, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs; Mr. Morton Klein, President, Zionist Organization of America; Dr. Michael Koplow, Policy Director, Israel Policy Forum; Mr. Eugene Kontorovich, Professor of Law, Northwestern University.

January 17, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Battlefield Successes and Challenges: Recent Efforts to Win the War Against ISIS.” The hearing demonstrated the successes against ISIS because of changes in the U.S. military’s delegation of authorities, increases in aerial bombing, and a more aggressive use of Special Forces. The work of the US military and intelligence communities as well as the support of important regional allies has been instrumental in the battlefield destruction of ISIS—and yet it has been woefully covered by the mainstream media. The Committee highlighted these victories to the American people and also laid out

the path forward for success against radical Islamic terrorism. Witnesses: Sebastian Gorka, Ph.D., Former Deputy Assistant to the President; Mr. Michael Pregent, Adjunct Fellow, Hudson Institute; Mr. Phillip Lohaus, Research Fellow, Marilyn Ware Center for Security Studies, American Enterprise Institute; Mr. Robert Anthony Pape, Jr., Professor, Political Science Department, University of Chicago.

March 22, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Bureaucratic Challenges to Hurricane Recovery in Puerto Rico.” The hearing highlighted the challenges that Puerto Rico faces in its rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Maria in September of 2017. Witnesses: The Honorable Michael Byrne, Assistant Administrator for Field Operations, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Mr. William Parks, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, U.S. Department of Energy; Mr. Peter Lopez, Regional Administrator, Region 2, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Mr. Scott Aaronson, Vice President, Security and Preparedness, Edison Electric Institute; SSG Johnathan Sutton (Ret.), Former U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne Division, Puerto Rico Volunteer. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

April 12, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “A ‘Caravan’ of Illegal Immigrants: A Test of U.S. Borders.” The hearing highlighted the impact of surging asylum seekers on law enforcement and the U.S. immigration system, and examined what the Department of Homeland Security is doing to prepare for the 2018 Pueblo Sin Fronteras cause. The hearing also explored how U.S. authorities are partnering with Mexican law enforcement and immigration authorities. Witnesses: Ms. Carla L. Provost (Declined invitation to testify), Acting Chief, U.S. Border Patrol; Mr. Brandon Judd, President, National Border Patrol Council; Colonel Steven McCraw, Director, Texas Department of Public Safety; The Honorable Andrew R. Arthur, Resident Fellow in Law and Policy, Center for Immigration Studies; Mr. Michael Breen, President and CEO, Truman Center.

June 6, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Protecting America from a Bad Deal: Ending U.S. Participation in the Nuclear Agreement with Iran.” The hearing discussed the withdrawal of American participation in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, that is, the Iran Nuclear Deal, examined the agreement’s flaws, and identified potential U.S. policy options for addressing the national security threat posed by Iran. Witnesses: Richard Goldberg, Senior Advisor, Foundation for Defense of Democracies; David Albright, President, Institute for Science and International Security; Michael Pregent, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute; Michael Rubin, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute; Jim Walsh, Senior Research Associate, Security Studies Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

June 20, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “Holding Cuban Leaders Accountable.” The hearing discussed the Trump Administration’s policy on Cuba, reviewed the 1996 shoot down of the *Hermanos al Rescate* humanitarian aircraft, and examined the possibility of criminal indictments for senior Cuban governmental officials for gross human rights violations. Witnesses: Mr. Jason Poblete Attorney, Poblete Tamargo LLP; Ambassador Roger

Noriega, Visiting Fellow, American Enterprise Institute; Ms. Ana Alejandre Ciereszko, Sister of Hermanos al Rescate Pilot, Armando Alejandre Jr.; Ms. Miriam de la Peña, Mother of Hermanos al Rescate Pilot, Mario de la Peña; William LeoGrande, Professor of Government, American University.

July 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “The Muslim Brotherhood’s Global Threat.” The hearing discussed the threat that the Muslim Brotherhood and its affiliates pose to the United States and its interests and how to most effectively counter it. Witnesses: Dr. Hillel Fradkin, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute; Dr. Jonathan Schanzer, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Foundation for Defense of Democracies; M. Zuhdi Jasser, M.D., President & Founder, American Islamic Forum for Democracy; The Honorable Daniel Benjamin Norman E. McCulloch Jr., Director, John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth University.

July 17, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Subcommittee hearing titled, “A New Horizon in U.S.-Israel Relations: From an American Embassy in Jerusalem to Potential Recognition of Israeli Sovereignty Over the Golan Heights.” The hearing discussed the potential for American recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights in furtherance of U.S. national security interests. Witnesses: Michael Doran, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute; Ambassador Dore Gold, Ph.D., President, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs; Eugene Kontorovich, Professor, Northwestern University School of Law; Ambassador Daniel Kurtzer, Ph.D., S. Daniel Abraham Professor in Middle Eastern Policy Studies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University; Mr. Morton Klein, President, Zionist Organization of America.

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

March 1, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Interior, Energy, and Environment and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, “Examining Environmental Barriers to Infrastructure Development.” The hearing reviewed instances of environmental laws and regulations that have hindered general infrastructure development. Witnesses: Mr. Richie Beyer, County Engineer, Elmore County, Alabama; Mr. Wayne D’Angelo, Counsel for the Steel Manufacturers, Association, Kelley Drye and Warren LLP; Mr. Nicholas Loris, Herbert and Joyce Morgan Research Fellow in Energy and Environmental Policy Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity, The Heritage Foundation.

March 8, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules titled, “Examining IRS Customer Service Challenges.” The hearing examined customer service at the Internal Revenue Service. The Committee was also interested in IRS decisions to fund priorities other than customer service. Witnesses: The Honorable John Dalrymple, Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement, Internal Revenue Service; Mr. Russell Martin, Assistant Inspector General, Returns Processing and Account Services, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Ms. Jessica Lucas-Judy, Acting Director, Strategic Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

March 28, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, "Reviewing Challenges in Federal IT Acquisition." This hearing examined why the federal IT acquisition system fails to perform and options to fix the IT acquisition system. Witnesses: Mr. David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Richard A. Spires, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Learning Tree International, Inc.; Mr. Venkatapathi "PV" Puvvada, President, Unisys Federal Systems; Mr. A.R. "Trey" Hodgkins III, Senior Vice President, Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector, Information Technology Industry Council; Ms. Deidre "Dee" Lee, Director, IT Management Issues, Chair, Section 809 Panel.

May 4, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules titled, "Examining a Church's Right to Free Speech." The hearing examined the Johnson Amendment's effect on a religious institution's right to free speech. Witnesses: Ms. Mandi Ancalle, Counsel for Government Affairs, Family Research Council; Ms. Catherine Engelbrecht, Citizen, Cat Spring, Texas; Ms. Christiana Holcomb, Legal Counsel, Alliance Defending Freedom; Rabbi David Saperstein, Former Director and Counsel, Religious Action Center.

May 24, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Interior, Energy, and Environment and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Examining 'Sue and Settle' Agreements: Part I." The hearing reviewed how federal agencies and environmental interest groups make policy through court-ordered agreements. Witnesses: Mr. William Kovacs, Senior Vice President, Environment, Technology & Regulatory Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Darcy Helmick, Simplot Livestock Co., Grand View, Idaho; Mr. Kent Holsinger, Holsinger Law, LLC, Denver, Colorado; Mr. Justin Pidot, Environmental and Natural Resources Law, Denver, Colorado.

May 25, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Improper Payments in the Federal Government: Student Aid." The hearing examined the Department of Education's federal student aid programs, and the rate of improper payments associated with them. Specifically, the hearing focused on the Department's improper payment estimates, the most recent audit of improper payment compliance conducted by the Office of Inspector General, and the Agency's plan to reduce the level of improper payments within its programs. Witnesses: The Honorable Kathleen S. Tighe, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Education; Mr. Justin Draeger, President, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA); Jay Hurt, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Federal Student Aid. Held pursuant to clause 2(o) of House Rule XI.

June 13, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, "The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) 4.0." This hearing was part of a continuing oversight effort on federal information technology (IT). This effort began with a June 10, 2015, hearing on the U.S. Government Ac-

countability Office's (GAO) 2015 designation of IT acquisition as "High Risk" area, and plans for FITARA implementation. The Committee continued this effort with the first FITARA Scorecard hearing on November 4, 2015, the FITARA Scorecard 2.0 hearing on May 18, 2016, and the FITARA Scorecard 3.0 hearing on December 6, 2016. The subcommittees heard details on agencies' progress in FITARA implementation (including data center consolidation, incremental development, and portfolio review efforts) and implications for IT acquisition reform and security. Witnesses: Mr. David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Beth Killoran, Deputy Assistant Secretary for IT, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Sheila Conley, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Acting Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Dr. Rick Holgate, Research Director, Gartner, Inc.

July 12, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, "General Services Administration—Acquisition Oversight and Reform." This hearing was a part of a continuing oversight effort on federal acquisition oversight and reform. This effort began with a March 28, 2017, hearing titled, "Reviewing Challenges for Federal Information Technology Acquisition." The subcommittees heard details on the role of the Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) in federal acquisition and the recent FAS reorganization. Witnesses: Mr. Alan Thomas, Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service, General Services Administration; Mr. Rob Cook, Deputy Commissioner of Technology Transformation Service, General Services Administration.

July 25, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Interior, Energy, and Environment and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Examining 'Sue and Settle' Agreements: Part II." The hearing reviewed how advocacy groups and federal agencies implement policy across state and local governments through court-ordered agreements. Witnesses: The Honorable John Engler, Former Governor, State of Michigan; Mr. Carl E. Geffken, City Administrator, Fort Smith, Arkansas; David Sanders, Ph.D., Executive Vice-President of Systems Improvement, Casey Family Programs; Mr. Robert Weissman, President, Public Citizen.

July 27, 2017, 9:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Challenges to Freedom of Speech on College Campuses." The hearing examined the culture and policies related to free speech on college campuses. Witnesses: Ms. Nadine Strossen, John Marshal Harlan II Professor of Law, New York Law School; Mr. Ben Shapiro, Editor-in-Chief, The Daily Wire; Mr. Adam Carolla, Comedian and Filmmaker, No Safe Spaces Documentary; Dr. Michael Zimmerman, Former Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, The Evergreen State College; Mr. Frederick Lawrence, Secretary and CEO, The Phi Beta Kappa Society, Anti-Defamation League.

October 24, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules titled, "Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In." The hearing focused on agency implementation

of the President's Executive Order 13771 "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs," and Executive Order 13777 "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda." The hearing evaluated the Department's efforts to implement these policies and establish a Regulatory Reform Task Force to reduce unnecessary, costly, duplicative, and burdensome regulations. Witnesses: Panel I: Ms. Joo Y. Chung, Director of Oversight and Compliance, Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer Department of Defense; Mr. Giancarlo Brizzi, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration; Dr. James C. Owens, Acting General Counsel, Department of Transportation. Panel II: Mr. Jitinder Kohli, Managing Director, Deloitte Consulting; Ms. Diane Katz, Senior Research Fellow for Regulatory Policy, The Heritage Foundation; Mr. James Goodwin, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Progressive Reform; Mr. Clyde Wayne Crews, Vice President for Policy, Competitive Enterprise Institute.

October 25, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules titled, "Ongoing Management Challenges at IRS." The hearing examined specific issues at IRS identified by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration and other oversight bodies. These issues included rehiring employees who were previously fired from IRS or separated while under investigation for conduct or performance issues. Witnesses: Mr. Jeffrey Tribiano, Deputy Commissioner for Operations Support, Internal Revenue Service; Ms. Gina Garza, Chief Information Officer, Internal Revenue Service; The Honorable J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Mr. Greg Kutz, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

November 14, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In: Part II." The hearing focused on agency implementation of the President's Executive Order 13771 "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs," and Executive Order 13777 "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda." The hearing evaluated the Department's efforts to implement these policies and establish a Regulatory Reform Task Force to reduce unnecessary, costly, duplicative, and burdensome regulations. Witnesses: Mr. Robert Eitel, Senior Counselor to the Secretary, Department of Education; Ms. Rebeckah Adcock, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Department of Agriculture; Mr. Charles Keckler, Associate Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

November 15, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, "The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 5.0." This hearing was part of a continuing oversight effort on federal information technology (IT). This effort began with a June 10, 2015, hearing on the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) 2015 designation of IT acquisition as "High Risk" area, and plans for FITARA implementation. Witnesses: Panel I: Mr. Dave Powner, Director of IT Manage-

ment Issues, Government Accountability Office; Mr. Max Everett, Chief Information Officer, Department of Energy; Ms. Alison Doone, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy; Mr. John Bashista, Director of Acquisition Management, Department of Energy; Ms. Barbara Helland, Associate Director of Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Department of Energy. Panel II: Mr. Dave Powner, Director of IT Management Issues, Government Accountability Office; Mr. Jay Mahanand, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development; Mr. Reginald Mitchell, Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development; Mr. Wade Warren, Acting Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development. Panel III: Mr. Dave Powner, Director of IT Management Issues, Government Accountability Office; Ms. Maria Roat, Chief Information Officer, Small Business Administration; Mr. Tim Gribben, Chief Financial Officer, Small Business Administration; Ms. Althea Coetzee Leslie, Deputy Administrator, Small Business Administration.

November 29, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Interior, Energy, and Environment and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, “Regulatory Reform Task Force Check-In Part III.” The hearing focused on agency implementation of the President’s Executive Order 13771 “Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs,” and Executive Order 13777 “Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda.” The hearing evaluated the Agency’s efforts to implement these policies and establish a Regulatory Reform Task Force to reduce unnecessary, costly, duplicative, and burdensome regulations. Witnesses: The Honorable David Bernhardt, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior; Ms. Britany Bolen, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy Environmental Protection Agency; Mr. Daniel Simmons, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy. November 29, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Intergovernmental Affairs and Information Technology titled, “Cybersecurity of Voting Machines.” This hearing discussed recent actions taken by state election officials, the federal government, and security researchers to mitigate known cybersecurity risks to voting machines. The hearing focused on identifying steps that the states, the federal government, and Congress can take to ensure the machines are secure. Witnesses: The Honorable Christopher C. Krebs, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; The Honorable Tom Schedler, Secretary of State of Louisiana; The Honorable Edgardo Córtes, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Elections; Matthew Blaze, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Computer and Information Science, University of Pennsylvania; Ms. Susan Klein Hennessey, Fellow in National Security, Governance Studies, Brookings Institution.

March 14, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, “State of Play: Federal IT in 2018.” The hearing provided an opportunity to discuss the state of federal information technology with key federal IT leaders. The hearing examined government-wide plans for IT modernization and cybersecurity, including implementation of the Administration’s December 2017 IT

Modernization Report and the creation of working capital funds authorized by the Modernizing Government Technology Act. Witnesses: Mr. David Powner, Director of IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; The Honorable Margaret Weichert, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Mr. Bill Zielinski, Deputy Assistant, Commissioner of the IT Category, U.S. General Services Administration; The Honorable Jeanette Manfra, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Cybersecurity and Communications, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

April 12, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Improper Payments in State-Administered Programs: Medicaid." The hearing focused on federal and state efforts to identify, prevent, and recover improper payments made through state Medicaid programs. The hearing also examined the federal-state relationship in Medicaid data-sharing quality and identifying and preventing fraud in the Medicaid program. Witnesses: Mr. Tim Hill, Deputy Director, Centers for Medicaid and CHIP Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Megan Tinker, Senior Advisor for Legal Review, Office of Counsel, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Carolyn Yocom, Director of Health Care, U.S. Government Accountability Office; The Honorable Daryl Purpera, CPA, CFE, Legislative, Auditor, Louisiana Legislative Auditor; Mr. Andy Schneider, JD, Research Professor of the Practice, Center for Children and Families; Georgetown University. Held pursuant to clause 2(o) of House Rule XI.

April 17, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules titled, "Continued Oversight Over the Internal Revenue Service." The hearing provided an opportunity for continuing IRS oversight by this Committee during Tax week. The subcommittees examined oversight issues at IRS identified in several recent Committee oversight letters and in reports by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). Witnesses: The Honorable David Kautter, Acting Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; The Honorable J. Russell George, Inspector General, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Ms. Nina Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, Internal Revenue Service. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

May 9, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Program Integrity for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program." This hearing explored opportunities for reform in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The hearing also examined fraud, waste, and abuse in SNAP and discussed recommendations on strengthening the program's integrity. Witnesses: Mr. Brandon Lipps, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Ms. Kathy Larin, Director of Education, Workforce, and Income Security, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Sam Adolphsen, Senior Fellow, The Foundation for Government Accountability; Ms. Stacy Dean, Vice President for Food Assistance

Policy, The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

May 22, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Ten Years of TARP: Examining the Hardest Hit Fund." This hearing examined implementation and oversight of the Hardest Hit Fund. The hearing provided Members an opportunity to review recent findings and recommendations from the Special Inspector General for Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP) aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the Hardest Hit Fund. This hearing also focused on identifying steps that the states, the federal government, and Congress can take to prevent misuse of program funds. Witnesses: Mr. Kipp Kranbuhl, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Small Business, Community Development, and Affordable Housing Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions, U.S. Department of the Treasury; The Honorable Christy Goldsmith Romero, Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, U.S. Department of Treasury; Ms. Verise Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, Nevada Affordable Housing Assistance Corporation; Ms. Cathy James, Business Development Manager, Alabama Housing Finance Authority; Mr. Scott Farmer, Executive Director, North Carolina Housing Finance Agency. Held pursuant to clause 2(n) of House Rule XI.

May 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Challenges to the Freedom of Speech on College Campuses: Part II." The joint hearing examined firsthand accounts from faculty and students at the center of the debate over free speech on college campuses. Witnesses: Mr. Tyson Langhofer, Senior Counsel and Director Center for Academic Freedom, Alliance Defending Freedom; Dr. Bret Weinstein, Professor In-Exile, Evergreen State College, Washington; Dr. Allison Stanger, Russell J. Leng '60 Professor of International Politics and Economics, Middlebury College, Vermont; Dr. Shaun Harper, Provost Professor of Education and Business, Allen Chair in Urban Leadership, University of Southern California; Dr. Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Princeton University, New Jersey.

May 23, 2018, 10:30 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, "The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 6.0." The hearing continued the Committee's oversight of information technology management and acquisition issues across the federal government by examining multiple agencies implementation of relevant IT laws, including FITARA and the Modernizing Government Technology Act. Witnesses: Panel I: Mr. David A. Powner, Director of IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Gary Washington, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Ms. Lynn Moaney, Acting Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Mr. Donald Bice, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Panel II: Mr. David A. Powner, Director of IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Dana Deasy, Chief Information Officer,

U.S. Department of Defense; Mr. Mark Easton, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Defense; The Honorable Kevin Fahey, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, U.S. Department of Defense.

July 24, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Shielding Sources: Safeguarding the Public's Right to Know." The hearing provided an opportunity for Members to discuss laws and practices that shield reporters from the government compelling disclosure of confidential sources. Members were also able to explore the case for a formal federal reporter's privilege, in addition to the merits of the Free Flow of Information Act. Witnesses: Mr. Lee Levine, Senior Counsel, Ballard Spahr, LLP; Ms. Sharyl Attkisson, Investigative Correspondent, Full Measure; Mr. Rick Blum, Policy Director, Reporters' Committee for Freedom of the Press.

July 25, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, "GAO High Risk Focus: Cybersecurity." The hearing reviewed the findings of a special mid-cycle GAO High Risk report on government-wide cybersecurity, which was scheduled for release in July 2018. This hearing also provided the opportunity to discuss how the federal government plans to address the problems identified by the report. Witnesses: The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Suzette Kent, Federal Chief Information Officer, U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Held pursuant to clause 2(p) of House Rule XI.

July 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and National Security titled, "The Federal Trade Commission's Enforcement of Operation Chokepoint-Related Businesses." This hearing examined the Federal Trade Commission's enforcement measures since the Department of Justice formally ended Operation Chokepoint, an initiative targeting the payment processing industry when associated with the illegal activity of merchants. Members learned the Federal Trade Commission's procedures for collecting complaints, conducting investigations, and suing payment processing companies. Witnesses: Mr. Andrew Smith, Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection, U.S. Federal Trade Commission; Mr. Jason Oxman, Chief Executive Officer, Electronic Transactions Association; Ms. Lauren Saunders, Associate Director, National Consumer Law Center.

September 6, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Interior, Energy, and Environment and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, "Permitting: Finding a Path Forward." The hearing explored the economic costs imposed by the existing federal permitting system and also served as a forum for evaluating current proposals to streamline and improve permitting processes. Witnesses: Mr. Daren Bakst, Senior Research Fellow, The Heritage Foundation; Mr. Philip K. Howard, Founder and Chair, Common Good; Mr. Frank Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Ms. Christy Goldfuss, Senior Vice President, Energy and Environment Policy, Center for American Progress.

September 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Fraud.” This hearing discussed how to combat Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) fraud from both a federal and state perspective. The hearing also explored how Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) can more effectively assist states in the program’s administration. Witnesses: Ann Coffey, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, USDA Inspector General; Tarren Bragdon, President and CEO, The Foundation for Government Accountability; Thomas Roth, Director, Fraud Investigations Unit, Maine Department of Health and Human Services; Dr. Craig Gundersen, Soybean Industry Endowed Professor in Agricultural Strategy, University of Illinois.

September 27, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and Intergovernmental Affairs titled, “The Benefits of a Deregulatory Agenda: Examples from Pioneering Governments.” The hearing examined experiences of state and international governments engaged in regulatory reform and discussed best practices that may be beneficial if implemented in the U.S. Witnesses: Mr. Scott Brinkman, Secretary of the Executive Cabinet, Commonwealth of Kentucky; Ms. Laura Jones, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer, Canadian Federation of Independent Business; Mr. Matt Vickers, Product Sales Engineer, New Markets, Xero; Mr. Amit Narang, Regulatory Policy Advocate, Public Citizen.

December 12, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology titled, “Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 7.0.” The hearing continued oversight of the federal agencies’ implementation of the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA). Witnesses: Ms. Carol C. Harris, Director of IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Mr. Ed Simcox, Chief Technology Officer and Acting Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Sheila Conley, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

December 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Joint Subcommittee hearing before the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules titled, “Exploring Alternatives to Fetal Tissue Research.” The hearing evaluated the ethical considerations of fetal tissue research and explored alternative research methods. The hearing also discussed recent steps taken by the Administration to expand efforts in developing and implementing the use of alternatives. Witnesses: Dr. Tara Sander Lee, Associate Scholar, Charlotte Lozier Institute; Dr. David Prentice, Advisory Board Member, Midwest Stem Cell Therapy Center; Dr. Sally Temple, Board Member and Former President, International Society for Stem Cell Research.

III. OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to House Rule XI, cl. 1(d)(B)–(D), this section summarizes the Committee’s authorization and oversight plan for the 115th Congress, summarizes actions taken and recommendations made by the Committee in the 115th Congress with respect to the

authorization and oversight plan, and summarizes additional oversight activities taken and recommendations made during the 115th Congress.

SUMMARY OF AUTHORIZATION & OVERSIGHT PLAN

The Committee's authorization and oversight plan for the 115th Congress reflected an intent to enact legislation to reauthorized lapsed authorizations and conduct oversight of programs under the Committee's legislative and its much broader oversight jurisdiction. Planned authorizations included the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act; the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP); the Opportunity Scholarship Program and DC Tuition Assistance Grant program; the National Historical Publications and Records Commission; the Paperwork Reduction Act; the Merit Systems Protection Board; the E-Government Act; the Office of Government Ethics; and the Office of Special Counsel.

Planned oversight covered such broad, government-wide topics as examining instances of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement generally; issues relating to open government, government records, classification policy, and transparency; whistleblower protection; the federal workforce; federal regulation and the regulatory process; the Government Accountability Office and inspectors general; contracting and acquisition; government reorganizations; and grant reform. In addition, the Committee's oversight plan discussed the intent to conduct oversight over a number of discrete topics: cybersecurity; security clearances; information technology management and acquisition; privacy; emerging technology; implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; drug policy and safety issues; the financial sector and implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act; the District of Columbia and Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority; the 2020 Decennial Census; the U.S. Postal Service; issues within the purview of the Department of Homeland Security such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Transportation Security Administration; national security issues such as armed conflicts abroad, embassy protection, the relationship between U.S. and international organizations; the Department of Veterans Affairs; energy, environmental, and transportation issues; issues related to the interior and federal property; and criminal justice reform.

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Lapsed Authorizations

In the 115th Congress, the Committee led enactment of legislation to address lapsed authorizations for the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) and Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (SOAR) for school scholarships in the District of Columbia. In addition, the Committee reported a reauthorization bill for the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) and a bill to reform portions of the E-Government Act of 2002.

Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization

Given the lapsed authorization and the unrelenting opioid crisis devastating the nation, reauthorizing and strengthening the

ONDCP to lead the federal effort to stem the epidemic was a priority for the Committee. ONDCP had not been reauthorized since 2006, and the most recent reauthorization expired in 2010. On October 24, 2018, the Support for Patients and Communities Act (H.R. 6, Pub. L. 115–271) was signed into law. Subtitle M of title VIII of the bill includes reauthorization of the ONDCP, including the Drug-Free Communities Program and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program (HIDTA).

The Committee conducted extensive oversight of ONDCP throughout the 115th Congress leading up to the reauthorization, working on a bipartisan, bicameral basis. These efforts led to significant reforms to ONDCP, including a reorganization of the Office with a focus on emerging drug threats, increased transparency of the federal drug control budget, revamped requirements for a National Drug Control Strategy, and establishment of a grant tracking system and public data dashboard.

The House bill to reauthorize ONDCP, H.R. 5925 was the product of thorough oversight by the Committee during the 115th Congress. The Committee and its Subcommittees held a series of hearings to examine reauthorizing the Office and to explore options for more effectively combatting the opioid epidemic.

On July 26, 2017, the Committee held a hearing entitled, “Office of National Drug Control Policy: Reauthorization in the 115th Congress.” This hearing examined ONDCP’s effectiveness in coordinating the government-wide effort to reduce illicit drug use and its consequences. The witnesses included Richard Baum, Acting Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Diana Maurer, Director of Justice and Law Enforcement Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; and Dr. Keith Humphreys Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University.

On November 28, 2017, at Johns Hopkins Hospital’s Chevy Chase Auditorium in Baltimore, Maryland, the Committee held a field hearing entitled, “Combating the Opioid Crisis,” to provide Members the opportunity to evaluate recommendations finalized by the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis and also discuss Baltimore’s efforts to address the opioid epidemic in their community to better guide federal determinations. Governor Christie, of New Jersey testified on the findings and recommendations from the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. Other witnesses included: Richard Baum, Acting Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Dr. Leana Wen, Health Commissioner, Baltimore City Health Department; and Dr. Caleb Alexander, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Drug Safety and Effectiveness.

On May 9, 2018, Chairman Trey Gowdy (R–SC), Ranking member Elijah Cummings (D–MD) and other members of the Committee held a Roundtable discussion with key leaders of ONDCP on reauthorization of the Office and challenges in addressing the opioid epidemic and reauthorization. The discussion included topics such as development of alternatives to addictive medications for pain, treatment options for those with substance use disorders, and the role of local law enforcement through the HIDTA Program. Participants included Kemp Chester, Acting Director, National Heroin Coordination Group; Terry Zobeck, Associate Director, Pol-

icy, Research, and Budget Office; Jim Olson, Deputy Director, U.S. Interdiction Coordinator; and Michael Gottlieb, Director, National HIDTA Association.

On May 17, 2018, the Committee held a hearing entitled, “A Sustainable Solution to the Evolving Opioid Crisis: Revitalizing the Office of National Drug Control Policy.” The hearing provided Members with the opportunity to discuss how the draft reauthorization bill would strengthen ONDCP’s role in leading the federal response to drug control and how evidence-based policymaking and information sharing could be used to combat the current opioid crisis and prevent future crises. The witnesses included: Dr. Anand Parekh, Chief Medical Advisor, Bipartisan Policy Center; Dr. Rahul Gupta, Commissioner and State Health Officer, Department of Health and Human Resources’ Bureau for Public Health, State of West Virginia; Thomas Carr, Executive Director, Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program; and Gretta Goodwin, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, U.S. Government Accountability Office.

Committee field work also informed ONDCP reauthorization legislation. In March 2018, Committee staff traveled to China to investigate the trafficking of illicit fentanyl through the U.S. Postal Service. Staff reviewed the roles of the Department of Homeland Security, the intelligence community, and the U.S. Postal Service to identify opportunities for better coordination and information sharing. On March 23, 2018, Committee staff conducted a site visit to a newly designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas initiative in Greenville, South Carolina within the Atlanta-Carolinas HIDTA region and held a roundtable discussion. Staff met with federal and state law enforcement officials who highlighted the collaborative nature of the HIDTA program and discussed recent accomplishments in disrupting local drug trafficking organizations.

On May 23, 2018, Chairman Trey Gowdy (R–SC) introduced H.R. 5925, the Coordinated Response through Interagency Strategy and Information Sharing (CRISIS) Act, with Ranking Member Elijah Cummings (D–MD), Subcommittee on Government Operations Chairman Mark Meadows (R–NC), and Subcommittee on Government Operations Ranking Member Gerald Connolly (D–VA). H.R. 5925 was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, with additional referrals to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Intelligence (Permanent Select), and Appropriations. The Committee ordered the bill favorably reported on May 23, 2018. The bill passed the House under suspension of the rules on June 20, 2018. H.R. 5925 was ultimately included, in part, in the Support for Patients and Communities Act (H.R.6, Pub. L. 115–271).

U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC) Reauthorization

The mission of the U.S. Office of Special Counsel is to protect federal employees from prohibited personnel practices, including reprisal from whistleblowing. OSC provides employees a mechanism to disclose wrongdoing in the federal government. The Committee conducts ongoing oversight of OSC, and interacts with the agency frequently regarding the protection of whistleblowers. OSC’s 2002 reauthorization expired at the end of fiscal year 2007. On January 3, 2017, Rep. Rod Blum reintroduced the Thoroughly Investigating

Retaliation Against Whistleblowers Act as H.R. 69, which the House voted to approve on January 4, 2017. H.R. 69 would have reauthorized OSC through fiscal year 2021.

H.R. 69 was included, in part, in Section 1097 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (H.R. 2810), which was signed into law on December 12, 2017 (Pub. L. 115–91). Section 1097 reauthorizes OSC through 2023. The Section 1097 language also clarifies federal agencies may not assert common law privileges to withhold information and documents from OSC when OSC requests information from the agency.

SOAR Reauthorization

The Committee also reauthorized the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act. The SOAR Act provides funding to (1) the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP), which provides grants to low-income students to attend private schools; (2) improve D.C. public schools; and (3) D.C. public charter schools. This three-part funding scheme was originally authorized in 2011. The authorization expired in 2016. On March 7, 2017, then-Chairman Jason Chaffetz introduced H.R. 1387, the SOAR Reauthorization Act. The bill would have reauthorized the SOAR Act through fiscal year 2022. The bill was favorably reported by the Committee on March 27, 2017 by voice vote. The SOAR Act reauthorization was included as part of the Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill and enacted through a Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.R. 244, which became Public Law Number 115–31 on May 5, 2017. This SOAR authorization expires at the end of fiscal year 2019.

Merit Systems Protection Board

The Committee continued its efforts to reauthorize the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), which lapsed in 2007. After gathering information, including multiple hearings regarding performance of some government employees and a December 16, 2015, reauthorization hearing in the 114th Congress, MSPB reauthorization language was introduced in the 115th Congress. On July 16, 2018, Rep. Jody Hice, Vice Chair of the Government Operations Subcommittee introduced, H.R. 6391, the Merit Systems Protection Board Reauthorization Act of 2018. This bill would have reauthorized the MSPB for five years (2019–2023) at its current appropriations level and institute several reforms. For example, the bill would have authorized a filing fee, authorized summary judgment authority for the Board, authorized reappointment of Board members, and reduced the evidentiary burden agencies must meet to defend actions before the Board. On July 17, 2018, the Committee ordered the bill favorably reported.

E-Government Act

The Committee worked to reauthorize the E-Government Act of 2002. During the 115th Congress, the Committee met with the General Services Administration and other stakeholders to discuss E-Government reauthorization. On September 26, 2018, Rep. Will Hurd (R–TX) introduced H.R. 6901, the Federal CIO Authorization Act of 2018 with Rep. Robin Kelly (D–IL). The bill would have updated parts of the 2002 E-Government Act by reauthorizing and re-

naming the Office of Electronic Government as the Office of the Federal Chief Information Officer, codified the positions of the Chief Information Officer and the Federal Chief Information Security Officer as presidential appointees, and elevated the Federal CIO within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to report directly to the OMB Director. The bill also requires the OMB Director to create a technology investment planning and oversight process to more effectively manage Federal IT investments. On September 27, 2018, the Committee reported the Federal CIO Authorization Act, taking a step toward E-Government Act reauthorization and reform. On November 30, 2018, the bill passed the House under suspension with a recorded vote of 391–1.

Open Government and Transparency

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

In the 115th Congress, the Committee worked to enhance government transparency. The Committee advocated for technological solutions to increase transparency throughout the government. On February 6, 2018, the Committee reported H.R. 4631, the Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act. This bill requires the Government Publishing Office to compile congressionally mandated reports and make them available to the public in a single, accessible website. As there is currently no single repository where the public can go to see the reports, this bill increases transparency by giving citizens convenient access to all executive agency reports submitted to Congress.

The Committee sought to increase government transparency by ensuring citizens had access to records from entities not already subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). On March 23, 2017, the Committee held a hearing, “Legislative Proposals for Fostering Transparency,” which examined transparency related to government data, audits, and FOIA. Specifically, the hearing discussed legislative proposals to hold governmental entities more accountable to taxpayers. As a result, former Chairman Jason Chaffetz introduced H.R. 1694 the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017. This bill makes the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) subject to FOIA while under government conservatorship, allowing citizens to request access to documents from these entities through FOIA. H.R. 1694 was favorably reported from the Committee by voice vote on March 28, 2017.

The Committee’s activities also focused on addressing challenges to accessing government records. For example, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) requested a legislative change to allow OGIS to perform its statutory duty to review agency compliance with FOIA. In order to perform these reviews, OGIS must review agency FOIA records. However, many agencies have not provided access to the records OGIS needs to complete its statutory duties due to a minor administrative requirement under the Privacy Act. On March 13, 2018, Committee Member Blake Farenthold introduced H.R. 5253, the Office of Government Information Services Empowerment Act of 2018. This bill amends FOIA to allow OGIS to access agency records as necessary for OGIS to conduct its statutorily required agency FOIA compliance reviews.

On March 15, 2018, the Committee ordered H.R. 5253 favorably reported.

In addition, the Committee addressed challenges related to accessing civil rights cold case records. On September 27, 2018, the Committee ordered H.R. 1272, the Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2017, favorably reported by unanimous consent. Many civil rights cold case records are not currently eligible for public disclosure. H.R. 1272 addresses this problem by creating an enforceable, independent, and accountable process for timely public disclosure of these records. The bill directs the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to establish a Civil Rights Cold Case Collection and Review Board to ensure the timely disclosure of records. The Senate companion to H.R. 1272 was signed into law in December, 2018.

During the 115th Congress, the Committee worked to oversee the implementation of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, Public Law Number 114–185. On April 28, 2016, the Committee requested the Government Accountability Office (GAO) complete a comprehensive review of the federal government’s compliance with FOIA, including the amendments to FOIA under the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016. In March 2018, GAO released the report.

The 2016 FOIA amendments also required the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to build an online FOIA request portal. To oversee the implementation of this section of the Act, the Committee held several meetings with OMB and DOJ where updates on the portal were provided. The portal went live in July 2018.

Federal Financial Management & Improper Payments

The Committee has responsibility for overseeing agency compliance with federal improper payment laws. In the 115th Congress, the Committee held agencies accountable through rigorous oversight, including briefings and hearings. On May 25, 2017, the Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing to discuss improper payments at entitled “Improper Payments in the Federal Government: Student Aid.” The Subcommittees heard testimony about the state of improper payments at the Department of Education, the Department of Education Inspector General, and the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administration. The hearing examined the Department of Education’s progress towards accurately and completely estimating improper payments in its programs, and how the Department recovers overpayments and it plans to prevent future improper payments. The hearing allowed members the opportunity to hear from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators on how best to ensure program integrity without deterring student access to postsecondary education.

The Committee continued its oversight of programs with high improper payment rates by holding another joint hearing of the Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs on April 12, 2018. The hearing was titled, “Improper Payments in State-Administered Programs: Medicaid,” and discussed Medicaid program challenges and program integrity efforts, examined Medicaid improper payments, and re-

viewed federal and state data coordination efforts aimed at reducing Medicaid improper payments and fraud.

Government Management and Federal Civilian Workforce

In the 115th Congress, the Committee continued its efforts to improve the efficiency of the civil service. The Committee held five hearings focused on the Federal civilian workforce:

On February 16, 2017, the Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs held a joint hearing entitled, "The Use of Official Time for Union Activities at the Department of Veterans Affairs." The hearing allowed Members to examine findings from the Government Accountability Office related to the use of taxpayer-funded union official time at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It also highlighted the disparity between VA's inability to meet veterans' needs with the rising number of employees engaged in union activities on official time.

On April 6, 2017, the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled, "The Best and Worst Places to Work in the Federal Government." The hearing focused on the 2016 results of the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS), an annual survey designed to gauge how Federal workers feel about engagement, motivation, job satisfaction, agency leadership, and other employment-related topics. Members questioned representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Surface Transportation Board on their respective finishes in the Best Places to Work agency rankings, as well as ways to increase employee morale and corresponding government efficiency. Members also heard from Max Stier, President and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service, on agency results and from Veronica Villalobos, Principal Deputy Associate Director for Employee Services at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), on changes made to the FEVS.

On May 18, 2017, the full Committee held a hearing entitled, "Federal Employee Compensation: An Update." The hearing gave Members the opportunity to hear about a Congressional Budget Office study which found Federal employees have total compensation rates higher than other American workers. It also gave Members the opportunity to examine the implications of an outdated, inflexible compensation system and explore opportunities for reform.

On May 16, 2018, the full Committee held a hearing entitled, "Workforce for the 21st Century: Analyzing the President's Management Agenda." The hearing gave Members the opportunity to discuss with two top Administration officials, Office of Management and Budget Deputy Director for Management Margaret Weichert and OPM Director Jeff Pon, the President's Management Agenda, which highlighted the need for a 21st century workforce. The hearing gave Members the opportunity to discuss the Administration's legislative proposals for changes to civil service laws and recap the Committee's previous efforts on legislative reform. A second panel allowed Members to hear the viewpoints of non-government groups.

On May 24, 2018, the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled, "Union Time on the People's Dime: A Closer Look at Official Time." The hearing gave Members the opportunity to highlight findings from a Committee Republican staff

memorandum on government-wide use of taxpayer-funded union official time. Members reviewed problems with official time data reporting, explored how and why the use of official time expanded, and discussed possible official time reforms.

On October 19, 2017, Committee Republican staff released a report detailing uneven use of tables of penalties for sexual misconduct across the Federal government. The report found some agencies did not even have a table of penalties, making it challenging for managers in addressing employee discipline issues. The report listed eight recommendations for improved handling of sexual misconduct in Federal agencies.

Throughout the 115th Congress, the Committee investigated premium pay cap violations at the Department of Homeland Security, payments from the Judgement Fund at the Department of the Treasury for federal employee sexual misconduct, agency leave without pay policies for union members, and salary redactions required under OPM's data release policy. The Committee also worked with the U.S. Secret Service to evaluate strategies for reducing overtime pay burdens at the agency.

The Committee worked on several important pieces of civil service legislation, including: H.R. 4182, the EQUALS Act of 2017, sponsored by Rep. James Comer (R-KY); H.R. 6391, the Merit Systems Protection Board Reauthorization Act of 2018, sponsored by Government Operations Subcommittee Vice Chairman Jody Hice (R-GA); and H.R. 559, the MERIT Act of 2017, sponsored by Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R-GA). All three bills would facilitate management of poor performing employees or those who engage in misconduct. H.R. 4182 was passed by the House on November 30, 2017, while H.R. 6391 and H.R. 559 were both ordered favorably reported by the Committee on July 17, 2018. The Committee also continued coordination with the House Armed Services Committee on civil service reform initiatives in the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). For example, the Fiscal Year 2019 NDAA (Pub. L. 115-232) included a provision to expand direct hiring for students and recent graduates (Sec. 1108), extend authority to conduct telework travel expenses test programs (Sec. 1105), and expanded flexibility in selecting candidates from referral lists (Sec. 1107).

National Archives and Federal Records (NARA)

The Committee continued its oversight of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in the 115th Congress. On March 8, 2017, the Committee sent a letter to 55 agencies regarding compliance with federal record keeping laws, the use of personal email for official business, and the use of new forms of electronic communication, including encrypted messaging applications that could limit or prevent the preservation of federal records. A similar letter was sent to the White House about compliance with the Presidential Records Act, the use of personal email for official business, the use of encrypted messaging applications, and the use of Twitter by the President. On September 25, 2017, the Committee followed up with 24 Chief Financial Officer Act Agencies and the White House about the same issues, and any changes that may have occurred to policies.

In the 115th Congress, the Committee considered two bills related to federal records and NARA. H.R. 194, the Federal Agency Mail Management Act of 2017, introduced by Rep. Russell (R-OK), made a technical correction to P.L. 113-187 to clarify the General Services Administration is responsible for mail management at federal agencies and not NARA. On February 2, 2017, the Committee ordered H.R. 194 favorably reported by voice vote. H.R. 194 became Public Law 115-85 on November 21, 2017.

H.R. 1376, Electronic Message Preservation Act of 2017, introduced by Ranking Member Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD) would have required the Archivist of the United States to issue regulations requiring agencies to electronically capture, preserve, and manage federal records that were created electronically. The bill also requires the heads of each federal agency to report to the Archivist on agency compliance with the new regulations and make the report publicly available on the agency's website. On March 15, 2018, the Committee ordered H.R. 1376 favorably reported by voice vote.

Government Contracting Oversight and Reform

The Committee conducted federal government contract oversight during the 115th Congress with the overall objectives of reducing waste, fraud, and abuse, as well as increasing efficiency and reducing contract costs. The Committee also focused on ensuring the federal government acquisition process reflects commercial best practices, to the extent practicable, with streamlined contract processes to reduce duplication and inefficiency while limiting government-unique requirements.

The Committee continued efforts from the 114th Congress to reduce the complexity of the federal acquisition process and compliance burden on federal contractors. As reported in the 114th Congress, the Committee sent a letter to the Secretary of Labor and the Administrator for the Office of Federal Procurement on July 15, 2015, requesting withdrawal of a proposed rule and guidance implementing Executive Order 13673. The proposed rule was duplicative and imposed a complex new labor compliance system on federal contractors. On August 25, 2016, this rule was finalized. Early in the 115th Congress, the Congressional Review Act process was used to roll back this rule. On January 30, 2017, Rep. Virginia Foxx, a member of this Committee introduced H.J. Res. 37 to disapprove this acquisition rule. H.J. Res. 37 was enacted on March 27, 2017, revoking the rule.

As part of the process of reforming and simplifying the federal government's acquisition process, the Committee received numerous briefings during the 115th Congress from members of the statutorily-created "Section 809 Panel" consisting of acquisition professionals and experts charged with making recommendations to improve the Department of Defense's (DOD) acquisition system. The Section 809 Panel was created in the Fiscal Year 2016 NDAA (Pub. L. 114-92). Although the panel is tasked with identifying reforms to DOD acquisition, many of the recommendations and principles are applicable to government-wide procurement. Several recommendations from the Section 809 Panel were incorporated in the Fiscal Year 2019 NDAA (Pub. L. 115-232). For example, the Committee coordinated with the House Armed Services Committee to

include in the FY2019 NDAA changes to the definition of “commercial item” in title 41 to avoid confusion between commercial items and commercial services.

IT Acquisition Oversight and Reform

During the 115th Congress, the Committee continued to focus on Information Technology (IT) acquisition and specifically implementation of the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA).

The Government Operations and Information Technology Subcommittees held a number of joint hearings focusing on the federal acquisition of IT. On March 28, 2017, the two Subcommittees held a joint hearing entitled, “Reviewing Challenges in Federal IT Acquisition.” This hearing provided an opportunity to discuss challenges in the current federal IT acquisition system, best practices from the private sector, and areas for IT acquisition reform. Witnesses included David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, GAO, Richard A. Spires, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Learning Tree International, Inc., Venkatapathi “PV” Puvvada, President, Unisys Federal Systems, Professional Services Council, Board Member, Mr. A.R. “Trey” Hodgkins III, Senior Vice President, Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector, Information Technology Industry Council, Ms. Deidre “Dee” Lee, Director, IT Management Issues, Chair, Section 809 Panel.

The Government Operations and Information Technology Subcommittees also held a hearing on July 12, 2017, entitled “General Services Administration—Acquisition Oversight and Reform. This hearing focused on GSA’s acquisition role, particularly the roles of the Federal Acquisition Service, which is responsible for over \$50 billion of goods and services bought by the government, and the Technology Transformation Service, which is responsible for technology transformation and modernized IT services. The hearing also focused on federal acquisition challenges, such as the increasing complexity of federal acquisition rules, the compliance burden of these rules, and the need to use commercial based best practices. Witnesses included: Alan Thomas, Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service, GSA and Rob Cook, Deputy Commissioner and Director of Technology Transformation Service.

The Committee continued to develop reform proposals based on hearings and oversight and successfully enacted several such reform proposals in the Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 NDAs. The Committee worked with the House Armed Services Committee to develop a proposal to authorize GSA to establish a program to buy commercial goods by contracting with several online marketplace providers in order to leverage modern commerce practices such as dynamic pricing, rapid point-and-click transactions, and delivery of goods under standard commercial terms and conditions. This E-Commerce portal language was enacted as Section 846 in the Fiscal Year 2018 NDAA (Pub. L. 115–91). This language was modified with input from GSA and other stakeholders to clarify authorities and data security requirements in Section 838 of the Fiscal Year 2019 NDAA (Pub. L. 115–232). The Committee continues oversight of GSA’s effort to implement the E-Commerce portal with regular briefings from GSA. In an effort to further reduce the complexity of federal acquisition rules, the Committee included a provision in

the Fiscal Year 2019 NDAA directing a review of the federal acquisition regulations on commercial products, commercial services, and commercially available off-the-shelf items (Sec. 839).

The Committee also continued an effort that began on November 4, 2015, to hold regular oversight hearings to hold agencies accountable for implementation of the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) with a bipartisan and bi-annual FITARA Scorecard. On June 13, 2017, the Subcommittees on Government Operations and the Subcommittee on Information Technology held a joint hearing entitled, “The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 4.0.” The hearing focused on agencies’ progress in FITARA implementation including data center consolidation, incremental development, and portfolio review efforts and implications for IT acquisition reform and security. Witnesses included David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, GAO; Beth Killoran, Deputy Asst. Secretary for IT and Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Sheila Conley, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

On November 15, 2017, the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology held a joint hearing entitled, “Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 5.0.” The Committee received testimony from three panels regarding FITARA implementation at the Department of Energy, U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Small Business Administration. Each panel featured the CIO, CFO, and a senior official in charge of IT acquisition at the agency.

On May 23, 2018, the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Information Technology held a joint hearing entitled, “Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Scorecard 6.0.” This hearing consisted of two panels to discuss FITARA Scorecard 6.0 grades earned by the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department of Defense (DOD). Each panel featured the CIO, CFO, and a senior official in charge of IT acquisition at the agency. On December 12, 2018, the Subcommittees held the FITARA Scorecard 7.0 hearing.

Based on oversight and legislative activity beginning in the 114th Congress, the Committee continued efforts to incentivize agencies to modernize IT. The Committee’s oversight showed agencies continued to operate numerous outdated and unsecure mission critical systems, use legacy programming languages with millions of lines of code, and deploy unsupported operating systems and software. The Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act of 2017, is the culmination of the Committee’s oversight work.

On May 2, 2017, the Committee favorably reported H.R. 2227, the MGT Act of 2017. The MGT Act was included as Subtitle G of Title X of the Fiscal Year 2018 NDAA, which was signed into law on December 12, 2017. The MGT Act authorizes two types of funds for the purpose of modernizing the federal government’s legacy IT and to incentivize IT savings in federal agencies. It authorizes all Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Act agencies to establish an agency-specific IT modernization fund controlled by the agency CIO and it authorizes the OMB to oversee a government-wide IT modernization fund to be administered by GSA. The Committee continued its

oversight of agencies' implementation of the MGT Act including by incorporating MGT requirements into the FITARA Scorecard.

In the 115th Congress, the Committee also conducted oversight of major government-wide contract vehicles, such as Networx and the Enterprise Infrastructure Services (EIS) contracts. These contract vehicles are tools to facilitate efficiency and modernization of telecommunications and IT infrastructure services at federal agencies. The most recent of these contract vehicles, EIS has a contract ceiling of \$50 billion over 15 years. The Committee has held numerous briefings with GSA on their activities to ensure successful modernization of federal telecommunications and related information technology services. On September 21, 2017, the Committee received a report from GAO on the EIS contract vehicle. The report found GSA and agencies have started planning for the transition to new contracts for these telecommunications and IT services to be provided under the EIS contract vehicle, but there was increased risk of transition delays and additional costs. On September 6, 2018, the Committee sent a follow up letter to GAO, requesting a further review of EIS transition activities. The Committee will continue to monitor agencies' modernization of these critical services.

Other Contracting Legislation

On February 2, 2017, the Committee favorably reported H.R. 679, the Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act. This bill is designed to encourage competition and reduce the costs of bidding for federal construction contracts by encouraging the use of the two-step bid and proposal process for design-build construction contracts. Encouraging use of the two-step process for design and construction services will reduce the costs of competing in the government marketplace for small businesses and reduce the time contracting officers must spend reviewing numerous complicated design proposals in the one-step process.

On September 13, 2017, the Committee favorably reported H.R. 3071, the Federal Acquisition Savings Act of 2017. The bill requires the federal government to analyze the cost effectiveness of renting equipment compared to buying or leasing such equipment and revise the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement this requirement. This bill also requires the GAO to submit a report to Congress two years after enactment on agency decisions to acquire equipment by purchase, lease, or rental. The bill passed the House on November 13, 2017, and was later incorporated in large part in the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Sec. 555, Pub. L. 115-254).

On September 13, 2017, the Committee favorably reported H.R. 3019, the Promoting Value Based Procurement Act of 2017. The bill establishes a policy requiring all federal agencies to avoid using lowest price technically acceptable (LPTA) source selection criteria for certain procurements, such as those for the acquisition of IT or knowledge-based professional services. Employing LPTA criteria for acquisitions of complex services can have the effect of focusing competing contractors on price, while minimizing or deterring creative or innovative approaches that will ultimately provide greater value. Using LPTA selection criteria for such services deprives an agency of the option of being able to choose to pay more to reap the bene-

fits of a superior solution or a more skilled or qualified contractor. The bill was enacted as section 880 of Title VIII—Acquisition Policy, Acquisition Management and Related Matters, NDAA Fiscal Year 2019.

Federal tax accountability

The Committee continued the work of the Committee in previous Congresses to address the issue of tax delinquency among federal employees, retirees, and contractors. On January 31, 2017, the Committee wrote to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to request a report to update work on tax delinquent contractors. This request was to follow up on previous GAO work, and update Congress on the scale of the issue. Chairman Chaffetz introduced H.R. 396, the Tax Accountability Act of 2017 to prohibit contractors and grant applicants with seriously delinquent tax debt from receiving federal contracts or grants. The bill also would make individuals with seriously delinquent tax debt ineligible for federal civilian employment.

Government Accountability Office (GAO)

The Committee has authorizing responsibilities over the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and in addition to highlighting GAO's signature work products during the 115th Congress, the Committee initiated a legislative reform to strengthen GAO's role as a leader and authority in federal appropriations law.

GAO Authorizing Activities

On September 27, 2018, the Committee approved H.R. 6891, the Anti-Deficiency Reform and Enforcement Act of 2018, sponsored by Rep. Paul Mitchell (R-MI). The bill strengthens the Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA) to prevent illegal spending by Executive branch agencies and provides specific statutory authority and timing requirements for the GAO to issue legal opinions on alleged violations. The bill also increases transparency in enforcement and implementation of GAO's opinions by requiring agencies to report to Congress on actions taken in response to the GAO opinions. H.R. 6891 provides for greater transparency in agency enforcement of the ADA by requiring more detailed information to be reported by agencies to Congress and to GAO regarding violations of the ADA. The bill also prescribes a range of administrative penalties, including suspension or demotion, agencies must take for certain serious violations and requires agencies to terminate employees who knowingly violate the ADA. H.R. 6891 implements a proposal from the Speaker's "A Better Way" initiative, which seeks to reinforce Congress's power of the purse and improve the enforcement of Congressionally-imposed limits on agency authority and spending.

GAO Duplication Report and Oversight

On April 26, 2018, the Committee held a hearing on the Government Accountability Office's 2018 duplication report entitled, "Waste and Inefficiency in the Federal Government: GAO's 2018 Duplication Report." Since 2011, GAO has issued annual reports on opportunities to reduce fragmentation, overlap, and duplication, as well as reduce costs and increase revenue, for the federal government. These reports have resulted in \$136 billion in financial bene-

fits for the federal government. GAO's 2017 report identified 29 new areas where federal agencies could achieve greater efficiency or effectiveness. In 2018, GAO identified 23 new areas. Comptroller General of the United States Gene L. Dodaro testified at the April hearing.

GAO High Risk List and Related Oversight

On February 15, 2017, the Committee held a hearing on the GAO high risk list entitled "GAO's High Risk Report: 34 Programs in Peril." The hearing reviewed GAO's biennial high risk list, which in 2017 identified the 34 areas of government most susceptible to waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement. The Comptroller General testified about new areas, including the 2020 Decennial Census and Improving Federal Programs that Serve Tribes and Their Members.

Following the High Risk Report hearing, on March 21, 2017, the Committee held a roundtable on cybersecurity threats to the 2020 Decennial Census and steps the Bureau should consider taking to address these threats. The costs associated with administering the Decennial Census have risen dramatically as a result of lower self-response rates and costs associated with field enumeration. The Census Bureau (Bureau) estimated it would cost \$17.8 billion if it relied on previously used methods for conducting the census. For the 2020 Census, the Bureau is attempting modernization on a larger scale than has been attempted previously.

Oversight efforts of both the Committee and GAO have focused on the need of the Bureau to procure the necessary technologies in a timely manner. With an estimated 324 million individuals in the United States, and the Bureau's mission to count and collect information on the United States population, the Census represents a major potential target for cyber threats. GAO highlighted a number of critical security challenges the Bureau will face in its modernization efforts, including minimizing the threat of phishing attacks aimed at Census respondents, contractors, and employees and ensuring limited and appropriate access to Census data. Participants in the Roundtable included Stewart Baker, Partner, Steptoe and Johnson; Tony Cole, Vice President of FireEye; David Powner, Director of Information Technology Management Issues, GAO; John Thompson, Director, U.S. Census Bureau; and other government officials and representative from academia and the private sector.

On July 25, 2018, the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Subcommittee on Government Operations hold a joint hearing entitled, "GAO High Risk Focus: Cybersecurity." This hearing reviewed the findings of an interim high-risk list report on the state of government-wide cybersecurity and information technology issues. GAO identified four major cybersecurity challenges and ten critical actions that the federal government must take to address them. Specifically, GAO said the federal government needs to implement a more comprehensive cybersecurity strategy and improve its oversight. In addition, the federal government must focus on maintaining a qualified cybersecurity workforce; addressing security weaknesses in federal systems and information and enhancing cyber incident response efforts; bolstering the protection of cyber critical infrastructure; and prioritizing efforts to protect individual's privacy and personally identifiable information. The Sub-

committees heard testimony from Comptroller General Gene L. Dodaro and Federal Chief Information Office Suzette Kent.

Federal Real Property

On February 15, 2018, the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled, “General Services Administration—Checking in with the Government’s Acquisition and Property Manager”. This was the first appearance of the new GSA Administrator, Emily Murphy, and Public Buildings Commissioner, Dan Mathews. The hearing focused on all aspects of GSA’s portfolio, but many questions focused on GSA’s real property portfolio. Topics included implementation of the Federal Asset Sales and Transfer Act, GSA leasing and holdovers, and modernizing GSA buildings, particularly the FBI headquarters project.¹

Regarding the FBI headquarters project, the Committee continues to conduct oversight in conjunction with the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. On August 27, 2018, the GSA Inspector General released a review of the FBI headquarters project. On September 5, 2018, Subcommittee on Government Operations Chairman Mark Meadows and Ranking Member Gerald Connolly requested the unredacted Inspector General report. Then, on September 17, 2018, Representatives Meadows and Connolly requested the report case file.

U.S. Postal Service (USPS)

The Committee continued to conduct oversight of the United States Postal Service’s (Postal Service) current operations to inform congressional reform efforts in the 115th Congress. The Committee held quarterly briefings with the Postal Service on the quarterly and yearly financials to monitor the financial health of the Postal Service throughout the 115th Congress. The Committee also continued oversight of the Postal Service’s process to replace its current fleet of vehicles with a briefing on July 13, 2017. Further, the Committee participated in oversight over potential Hatch Act violations at the Postal Service during the 2016 election cycle. Following a Postal Service Office of Inspector General (OIG) report on the issue, the Committee requested the full report of investigation from the OIG on August 29, 2017, and requested transcripts of all witness interviews conducted by the Office of Special Counsel during the investigation on September 14, 2017. These documents combined with further briefings and continued oversight raised concerns about potential Hatch Act violations in the 2018 election cycle.

During the 115th Congress, the Committee continued to work on reform efforts to stabilize the Postal Service’s financials. On February 7, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled, “Accomplishing Postal Reform in the 115th Congress—H.R. 756, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2017.” The hearing examined the ongoing financial challenges facing the agency as a result of diminishing demand for mail and growing legacy benefit costs. The hearing also provided an opportunity to discuss a path forward for the Committee’s proposed solution for the Postal Service, H.R. 756, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2017. H.R. 756 was introduced on January 31, 2017

¹ Pub. L. No. 114–287, 130 Stat. 1463 (2016).

by Chairman Chaffetz, Ranking Member Cummings, Reps. Meadows, Ross, Connolly, and Lynch. The bill included provisions requiring the Postal Service employees and retirees to fully enroll in Medicare benefits, if they are eligible, in order to maintain their access to Federal Employee Health Benefits Plan coverage in retirement. This change would address the Postal Service's unfunded liability for retiree health care benefits and allow the agency to operate more like a private sector business, in line with its self-funding mandate. This bill included only minor changes, and was nearly identical to H.R. 5714, the Postal Reform Act of 2016, introduced by Chairman Chaffetz in the 114th Congress. The bill was reported favorably on March 16, 2017.

On September 7, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled, "Examining the Shipment of Illicit Drugs in International Mail." This hearing covered the issues of the discrepancy in security standards between the Postal Service and the private express carriers that have facilitated an influx of illicit drugs through the mail. Also, the hearing reviewed procedures that have been effective in thwarting contraband from entering the United States, as well as what procedures could be effective in the future from those in charge of investigating and examining international mail.

Government of the District of Columbia

In the 115th Congress, the Committee reviewed the District of Columbia's use of federal dollars to fund programs such as school choice. In doing so, the Committee worked to reauthorize the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP), which provides grants to District students to expand school choice, part of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act. The SOAR Act program was reauthorized through the end of fiscal year 2019 as a part of a Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.R. 244, which became Public Law Number 115-31 on May 5, 2017.

The Committee continued to review District expenditures for local programs to ensure the expenditures are in line with Congressional mandates and federal law. The Committee worked on two bills related to D.C. expenditures:

- On February 13, 2017, Committee Member Eleanor Holmes Norton introduced H.R. 1003, the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act. The bill amends D.C. Code and the D.C. Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 to establish and authorize a voluntary separation incentive payments program for D.C. public defenders. The program would provide a one-time lump sum payment in exchange for the individual voluntarily ending their employment. This program would reduce the D.C. Court's personnel costs by \$25 million over nine years. The Committee ordered the bill favorably reported on February 14, 2017.

- On June 13, 2017, Committee Member Eleanor Holmes Norton introduced H.R. 2897, to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes. The bill was in response to the District request

to undertake a greater share of the responsibilities for the city's green spaces and parks. The bill permits the Mayor to enter into cooperative agreements on management of National Park Service (NPS) land in D.C. The bill would allow D.C. to spend money on maintenance and repair to NPS facilities in D.C. On July 19, 2017, the Committee ordered the bill favorably reported by voice vote. On January 16, 2018, the House passed H.R. 2897 under suspension by voice vote.

Washington Metro Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

On March 29, 2017 the Government Operations Subcommittee held a hearing titled "WMATA After SafeTrack," to examine results from WMATA's "SafeTrack" program as well as its "Back2Good" initiative. The Committee also reviewed WMATA's financial situation and necessary steps for improvement. Members received additional info from WMATA and GAO officials about a GAO report detailing the SafeTrack project's effectiveness and implementation.

On January 15, 2018, a Metrorail Red Line train derailed after it passed over a cracked section of rail line in the tunnel between Farragut North and Metro Center station. After the derailment, Metro officials said this section of track had undergone multiple previous inspections and testing, but the cracked rail was never detected. On January 19, 2018, the Committee sent a letter to WMATA General Manager Paul Wiedefeld requesting a briefing on the issue. WMATA officials briefed the Committee [staff] on February 1, 2018, with a detailed timeline of the incident and answered related questions.

Additionally, the Committee has regularly coordinated with WMATA OIG office. Inspector General Geoffrey Cherrington briefed the Committee staff on September 4, 2018 on a number of issues including the January 15 derailment investigation. IG Cherrington provided additional information concerning agency funding concerns, office independence, and continued safety audits of WMATA operations.

Security Clearances

In the 115th Congress, the Committee continued to conduct oversight on the security clearance process, especially given the government-wide impact of this function on federal employees and contractors and concerns a prospective transfer of background investigation functions to the Department of Defense exacerbate the background investigations backlog and increase unnecessary duplication. On February 2, 2017, the Committee held a hearing entitled, "Improving Security and Efficiency at OPM and the National Background Investigations Bureau." Members learned about steps the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) took to secure their IT systems, particularly as they relate to background investigations, following the 2015 data breach. The hearing also gave the Committee the opportunity to discuss the security clearance backlog and process challenges while learning about the Administration's efforts to improve background investigation coordination between the Department of Defense (DOD) and OPM.

On October 11, 2017, the Committee held a hearing entitled, "Security Clearance Investigation Challenges and Reforms." This hear-

ing provided Members the opportunity to make the case for keeping responsibility for DOD security clearance investigations at the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB), a component of OPM. It also educated Members on ongoing and potential reform initiatives to reduce the security clearance investigation backlog and discuss flaws in the interim clearance process.

On October 26, 2017, the Committee sent a bipartisan letter to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees recommending the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 not include a provision transferring responsibility for conducting DOD background investigations from OPM. The Committee argued such a move would be duplicative, unnecessary, and counterproductive, especially given DOD's failure to effectively administer this function ten years ago. The provision was ultimately included in the Fiscal Year 2018 NDAA.

As a result of Congress's decision to transfer DOD-related background investigations to DOD, the Administration announced its intent in its June 21, 2018, government-wide reorganization plan to move all remaining background investigations to DOD in order to realize efficiencies and eliminate duplicative functions. Committee staff continue to receive quarterly briefings on the status of the transfer, in addition to briefings on the status of background investigation process improvements.

Inspectors General

During the 115th Congress, the Committee held three hearings on Inspector General specific issues. The first hearing was held on February 1, 2017, and titled, "Empowering the Inspectors General." The hearing reviewed the impact of the Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016 on the work of the IGs, which the Committee passed in the 114th Congress, and examined the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's (CIGIE) legislative priorities and potential additional reforms. On November 15, 2017, the Committee held another hearing titled, "Recommendations and Reforms from the Inspectors General." This hearing discussed CIGIE's legislative priorities, the importance of filling vacant IG positions, and the importance of the oversight role of the IGs. At this hearing, CIGIE Chair and Department of Justice IG Michael Horowitz highlighted the issue of bifurcated jurisdiction at the DOJ IG when investigating allegations of misconduct DOJ attorneys, which is investigated by the Office of Professional Responsibility, versus other DOJ employee misconduct, which is investigated by the DOJ IG.

On April 18, 2018, the Committee held a hearing titled, "Top Management and Performance Challenges Identified Government-wide by the Inspector General Community." The hearing provided the opportunity to discuss the first ever CIGIE report on the top management and performance challenges identified by IGs government-wide. The report, for the first time, provided information about, analyses of, and links to the 61 publicly available IG reports on agency management and performance challenges.

As a result of issues raised by the IGs in Committee hearings, the Committee moved several bills to address these issues. The Committee moved H.R. 3154, the Inspector General Access Act of 2017, which was introduced by Rep. Cedric Richmond (D-LA) and

sponsored by Committee Members Reps. Jody Hice (R-GA) and Stephen Lynch (D-MA). H.R. 3154 repeals a provision requiring the IG to refer certain allegations of misconduct involving DOJ attorneys to the Office of Professional Responsibility. The bill was favorably reported by unanimous consent on September 27, 2018 and passed the House under suspension by voice vote on November 29, 2018.

The Committee also moved H.R. 4917, the IG Subpoena Authority Act, which was introduced by Rep. Steve Russell (R-OK). The bill would authorize IGs to issue testimonial subpoenas for contractors, grant recipients, and former federal employees, as necessary to perform the functions required by the Inspector General Act of 1978. This provision enhances the ability of the IGs to identify waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in the Executive Branch by preventing former employees, contractors, or grant recipients from resigning to avoid speaking with the IG. The bill was ordered favorably reported by voice vote on February 6, 2018, and was agreed to in the House on September 26, 2018.

Whistleblower Protection

The Committee continued its efforts related to the protection of whistleblowers in the federal government by enacting five bills:

- On February 2, 2017, the Committee favorably reported H.R. 657, the Follow the Rules Act. This Act clarifies the prohibition against certain personnel actions including those actions taken against any employee applicant for refusing to obey an order that would violate a rule or regulation. H.R. 657 was signed into law on June 14, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-40).
- On April 28, 2017, Ranking Member Elijah Cummings introduced H.R. 2229, the All Circuit Review Act. This bill allows individuals to appeal Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) final orders regarding whistleblower retaliation complaints to any U.S. Court of Appeals. On May 2, 2017, the Committee favorably reported the bill by voice vote. H.R. 2229 was signed into law on June 25, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-192).
- On May 25, 2017, the Committee discharged S. 1083, a bill to amend section 1214 of title 5, U.S. Code, to provide for stays during a period that the Merit Systems Protection Board lacks a quorum. This bill allows the MSPB to act on a request from the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) to extend a stay of personnel action while the Board lacks a quorum. On June 27, 2017 the bill was enacted into law (Pub. L. 115-42).
- On October 26, 2017, S. 585, the Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017, was signed into law (Pub. L. 115-73). The Act extends protections provided to federal employees who are retaliated against for disclosing fraud, waste, or abuse. The bill also directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to address concerns relating to gaps in its whistleblower protections.
- On October 12, 2017, Committee Member Rod Blum introduced H.R. 4043, the Whistleblower Protection Extension Act of 2017. This bill extends the whistleblower ombudsman program. The program directs agency inspectors general to designate an ombudsman at the agency to provide information to employees on whistleblower protections and remedies. The

Committee ordered the bill favorably reported by voice vote on November 2, 2017. The Senate companion text to the bill, S. 1896, was signed into law on June 25, 2018 (Pub. L. 115–192).

- The Committee encouraged a culture throughout the federal government of protecting whistleblowers and encouraged best practices to prevent retaliation. In doing so, the Committee worked to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel (OSC). The OSC was reauthorized through the end of fiscal year 2023 in Section 1097 of H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. On December 12, 2017, H.R. 2810 was enacted into law.

In addition, 2017 marked the five-year anniversary of the enactment of the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 (WPEA). At a hearing on February 1, 2017, the Committee received updates on new provisions implemented in the WPEA and reviewed provisions expiring in 2017.

Oversight of the Decennial Census

The Committee continued to conduct oversight of the 2020 decennial census in the 115th Congress. This oversight role is particularly important given the extent to which the Census Bureau is shifting toward the use of more technology to administer the Census. During the 115th Congress, the Committee held a number of hearings related to the 2020 Census. The Committee has also worked to maintain constant communication with the Bureau to ensure the 2020 Census is executed in an efficient and effective manner.

On October 12, 2017, the Committee held a hearing entitled “Hearing on the 2020 Census.” The hearing was the first time the Committee heard testimony from Secretary Ross on the status of the 2020 Census. The hearing examined the Department of Commerce’s role in overseeing the Bureau, including management changes made in the decennial census program. The hearing also examined updated lifecycle cost estimate for the 2020 Census, which was ordered by Secretary Ross after he was confirmed as Secretary. The new estimate projected the 2020 Census will cost \$15.6 billion, a \$3.3 billion increase over previous projections.

On May 8, 2018, and on May 18, 2018, the Committee held a hearing entitled “Progress Report on the 2020 Census.” On May 8, 2018, the Committee received testimony from the Department of Commerce, the Census Bureau, and GAO about current status of IT systems, the 2018 Census Test, and the release of the decennial census questionnaire. Chairman Gowdy invited the Department of Justice to the hearing; however, the witness was unable to appear on May 8. Chairman Gowdy recessed the hearing until May 18, 2018, where the Committee heard testimony from the Department of Justice regarding the decennial census questionnaire.

In addition to the aforementioned hearings, the Committee has held numerous briefings with key Census Bureau personnel. In response to a request letter sent by Chairman Gowdy, on April 11, 2018, the Committee held a member briefing with the Census Bureau to discuss the release of the 2020 Census questionnaire. On July 18, 2018, the Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Subcommittee on Information Technology held a joint member briefing on the status of 2020 Census IT system development. On

December 12, 2018, the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a member briefing on cybersecurity for the 2020 Census. This was the second cybersecurity roundtable hosted by the Committee. The first was held March 21, 2017. These meetings have focused on issues related to cybersecurity and procurement schedules.

Federal Advisory Committees Act (FACA)

The Committee also examined the implementation of open government laws, such as the Federal Advisory Committees Act (FACA). The Committee continued to work on H.R. 70, the Federal Advisory Committees Amendment Act. The bill seeks to create a formal process for the public to recommend Committee members and requires member selection without regard to partisan affiliation. In addition, the bill increases each FACA Committees' disclosure requirements. The House passed H.R. 70 on January 4, 2017.

Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission Act

The Committee continued to monitor the implementation of the Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission Act (Pub. L. 114-50). The Commission's final report was released on September 7, 2017. On September 26, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled, "Recommendations of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking." The hearing focused on how Congress can improve access to data, protect privacy and confidentiality, and facilitate the creation of evidence-based policies. On October 31, 2017, Speaker Paul Ryan introduced H.R. 4174, the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2017. H.R. 4174 codified several of the recommendations from the Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission. On November 2, 2017, the Committee ordered the bill favorably reported by voice vote and on November 15, 2017, H.R. 4174 was agreed to under suspension of the rules in the House and was sent to the President for signature on December 21, 2018.

Government Reorganization

As required by House Rule X, clause 4(c)(1)(B), the Committee evaluates the effects of laws enacted to reorganize the legislative and executive branches of the Government. On June 21, 2018, President Trump released a report with multiple government reorganization proposals impacting much of the federal government. On June 27, 2018, the Committee held a hearing titled, "Examining the Administration's Government-wide Reorganization Plan." The hearing discussed the specifics of the Administration's executive branch reorganization plan and how it might lead to a modern, efficient, effective, and accountable federal government, examined the process by which the administration developed its executive branch reorganization plan and the rationale behind it, and sought to understand Congress's role in executive branch reorganizations.

During the Committee's review of these proposals over the summer and fall of 2018, staff held multiple briefings agencies on government-wide reorganization and internal agency reorganization activities. Briefings were held with the Office of Management and Budget, the General Service Administration, the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Education, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, the United States

Agency for International Development, and the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

Additional Oversight Activities Undertaken and Recommendations Made and Actions Taken Thereon

Investigation Into the Purchase of Tourniquets by the U.S. Army

In 2017, the Committee began a review of the decision by the Army to pursue the development of an alternative to the Combat Application Tourniquet (CAT), the tourniquet issued to soldiers as part of first aid kit. The CAT had been fielded by the Army with great success since 2004. The decision to pursue an alternative began in 2012, when the Army awarded a noncompetitive contract for \$125,000 for the development of prototype tourniquets. The Committee's investigation focused on the circumstances surrounding the decision to seek an alternative tourniquet for which the Army would need to provide training as well as the use of a noncompetitive contract to develop a new tourniquet despite the proven reliability of the CAT.

On June 22, 2017, Army officials briefed Committee staff on the tourniquet contracting process and why the Army moved forward with the contract for the development of a prototype tourniquet. The Army subsequently provided limited information and a timeline of events from 2004 to 2017 relating to testing and fielding of tourniquets. On October 3, 2017, Chairman Trey Gowdy (R-SC) sent a letter to Lt. General Nadja Y. West, Surgeon General of the U.S. Army and Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Command, requesting a briefing and additional documents.

On November 2, 2017, Major General Brian C. Lien, Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School Health Readiness Center of Excellence briefed Committee staff, highlighting the need for a standardized and reliable tourniquet. General Lien advised the Committee an internal Army investigation was underway. Following the results of the investigation, the Commanding General directed actions be taken to implement the recommendations and a report be submitted by March 31, 2018 detailing the actions taken. Based on those recommendations, the Army determined the CAT tourniquet will remain as the chosen capability solution to ensure extremity tourniquets are standardized across the U.S. Army. On November 6, 2018, the Army updated its regulations to clarify the upgrade and modification processes for medical sets, kits and outfit contents. The Committee continues to monitor implementation of the recommendations.

Investigation of Government Travel

On September 26, 2017, the Committee opened an oversight investigation to review taxpayer funded travel by non-career agency officials by sending a letter to all 24 CFO Act agencies requesting travel information for non-career officials during the period of January 2017 to September 2017. On October 17, 2017 a follow up letter was sent to all 24 agencies requesting travel information for non-career agency officials during the period of January 2016 to January 2017. Several Inspectors General also launched investigations at agencies to review agency specific travel practices.

Investigation on Equifax Data Breach

On September 14, 2017, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for the U.S. House of Representatives sent a request to Equifax Chief Executive Officer Richard Smith for documents and communications related to the Equifax data breach announced on September 7. On November 20, 2017, the Committees sent an additional letter to Equifax requesting organizational charts, documents, and communications from the offices of the Chief Security Officer and Chief Information Officer, and information related to Equifax's notification to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In response to the document requests, the Committees received over 122,000 documents in rolling productions from October 2017 through September 2018. The Committees also conducted three transcribed interviews of key witnesses and received briefings from Equifax and other key stakeholders. On December 10, 2018, the Committee majority staff produced an investigative report entitled, "the Equifax Data Breach."

Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act

On September 15, 2017, the President signed into law the Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act of 2017 (Pub. L. 115-59). The Act prohibits federal agencies from including any individual's Social Security account number on any document sent by mail unless deemed necessary, requires agencies to promulgate regulations to specify the circumstances under which a Social Security account number can be included on a document sent by mail, and a series of reports on agency implementation of the law. The Committee conducted oversight to help ensure agencies implement the requirements of the Act by holding agencies accountable for producing required reports.

Legislative Activity To Reduce Waste

On February 14, 2017, the Committee considered H.R. 195, the Federal Register Printings Savings Act of 2017, which prohibits the Director of the Government Publishing Office from distributing printed copies of the Federal Register without charge to Members of Congress and other offices of the federal government without a request. The bill was signed into law on January 22, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-120). The bill will reduce waste by eliminating unused Federal Registers within Congressional offices that were typically recycled each day because this publication can be accessed electronically.

On May 23, 2018, the Committee considered H.R. 5415, the GAO-IG Act, which was introduced by Representative Mark Walker (R-NC). The bill would require agencies to submit within the agency's annual budget justification to Congress a list of "open" or "closed unimplemented" recommendations from the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and recommendations for corrective action from the agency's office of the inspector general (OIG) for which no final action has been taken. The bill would also require agencies to report on the implementation status of each recommendation, and why they have not been implemented fully. This creates a process in which agencies must take stock of their open and unimplemented recommendations, and helps promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within Executive Branch departments

and agencies. The bill was ordered favorably reported, as amended, by voice vote at mark up, and was agreed to in the House on July 16, 2018.

HEALTHCARE, BENEFITS, & ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The Health Insurance Industry and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)

The Committee continued oversight of the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) in the 115th Congress.

On January 31, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules held a hearing titled, “Fraud, Waste, and Abuse under the Affordable Care Act.” The hearing examined challenges with implementation of the PPACA and the impact of the law on the health insurance market. Witnesses were Vicki Robinson, Senior Counselor for Policy, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and John Dicken, Director of Health Care, U.S. Government Accountability Office.

Implementation of the health care law relied on coordination with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). On April 5, 2018, the Committee wrote the Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy, the Honorable David Katter with concerns about the arbitrary enforcement of the PPACA’s Employer Shared Responsibility Provision—commonly referred to as the employer mandate—in November 2017 after years of delays and internal shortcomings. The Committee raised questions related to the IRS’s capacity to evaluate compliance and assess penalties.

The Pharmaceutical Industry and the Cost of Prescription Drugs

The Committee also continued oversight of the rising prices of prescription medications. The federal government pays for a growing share of costly retail prescription drug costs, primarily through Medicare’s prescription drug benefit.

On March 22, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules held a hearing titled, “Examining the Impact of the Voluntary Restricted Distribution Systems in the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain.” The hearing examined the purpose of using restricted distribution systems in the pharmaceutical supply chain, and how, in certain instances, a manufacturer may use a restricted distribution system to delay or block generic competition. Witnesses were Bruce Leicher, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Momenta Pharmaceuticals on behalf of the Association for Accessible Medicines; Dr. Gerard Anderson, Director of the Center for Hospital Finance and Management, Professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; and David Mitchell, President and Founder, Patients for Affordable Drugs.

On August 18, 2017, the Committee requested the U.S. Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Justice brief staff on the practice of pharmaceutical companies raising prices of treatments for Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in lockstep with other competitors. Since the FTC and the DOJ are jointly responsive for enforcing antitrust laws, officials were able to explain the distinct differences between the various treatments from one another and wide range of variability in the products.

Federally-Funded Medical Research

On March 29, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled, “Federally Funded Cancer Research: Coordination and Innovation.” The hearing reviewed developments in research relating to curing certain cancers. It also examined the enterprise of cancer researchers that galvanize and contribute to comprehending the complexities of cancer that is leading to innovative therapies and cures. The hearing discussed the national infrastructure that generates and facilitates cancer research, delving into the coordination amongst primary funders of and advocates for cancer research, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), pharmaceutical companies, philanthropists, and nonprofit organizations. Witnesses were Tammi Carr, mother of Chad Carr, the ChadTough Foundation; Dr. Mary Beckerle, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah Medical School; Dr. Elizabeth Jaffee, Deputy Director, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins University; and Dr. Tyler Jacks, Director, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

On December 13, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled, “Exploring Alternatives to Fetal Tissue Research.” The hearing examined the ethical considerations of fetal tissue research and explored alternative methods. Witnesses were Dr. Tara Lee Sander, Associate Scholar of the Charlotte Lozier Institute; Dr. David Prentice, Advisory Board Member of the Midwest Stem Cell Therapy Center; Dr. Sally Temple, Board Member and former President, International Society for Stem Cell Research.

Improper Payments in the Medicaid Program

On April 12, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled, “Improper Payments in State-Administered Programs: Medicaid.” The hearing examined federal and state efforts to identify, prevent, and recover improper payments made through state Medicaid programs. The hearing also examined the federal-state relationship in Medicaid data-sharing quality and identifying and preventing fraud in the Medicaid program. Witnesses were Tim Hill, Deputy Director, Centers for Medicaid and CHIP Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Megan Tinker, Senior Advisor for Legal Review, Office of Counsel, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Carolyn Yocome, Director of Health Care, U.S. Government Accountability Office; the Honorable Daryl Purpera, CPA, CFE, Legislative Auditor, Louisiana Legislative Auditor; and Andy Schneider, Research Professor of the Practice, Center for Children and Families, Georgetown University.

Waste and Fraud Involving Food Stamps

The Subcommittee continued oversight of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) with the goal of restoring it to a transitional program, helping those who are in need of assistance while providing resources so they can become self-sufficient, in-

stead of serving as a mechanism for long-term dependence on the government.

On February 8, 2017, the Committee requested the GAO to conduct three studies related to retailer fraud, out-of-state electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards, and Employment and Training programs. The latter was published on December 20, 2018, while the EBT report was published on November 1, 2018.

On May 9, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, "Program Integrity for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program." The hearing examined the waste, fraud, and abuse in SNAP and explored how the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) can more effectively assist states in the program's administration. Witnesses were Brandon Lipps, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service Acting Deputy Undersecretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Kathy Larni, Director of Education, Workforce, and Income Security, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Sam Adolphsen, Senior Fellow, the Foundation for Government Accountability; and Stacy Dean, Vice President for Food Assistance Policy, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

On September 26, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Fraud." The hearing examined how to combat SNAP fraud from both a federal and state perspective and discussed how the FNS can more effectively assist states in the program's administration, including calculating the improper payment rate and fraudulent reporting by state agencies. Witnesses were Ann Coffey, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, the U.S. Department of Agriculture; Office of the Inspector General; Tarren Bragdon, President and Chief Executive Officer, the Foundation for Government Accountability; Thomas Roth, Director of Fraud Investigations Unite, Maine Department of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Craig Gundersen, Soybean Industry Endowed Professor in Agricultural Strategy, University of Illinois.

The authorizing statute for SNAP vests discretion with the Secretary in granting a waiver of the work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) receiving benefits through SNAP. The regulations implementing this section states FNS "will" approve requests for waivers when certain information is provided by a state agency requesting a waiver, wresting away discretion granted to the Secretary by Congress. The Subcommittee received a briefing on the Food and Nutrition Service's Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking relating to the Secretary's discretion in waiving requirements for ABAWDs who qualify for SNAP.

Federal Regulation and the Regulatory Process

On September 6, 2017, the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Judiciary requested briefings from 24 federal agencies on the progress of implementing the President's Executive Orders requiring the establishment of Regulatory Reform Task Forces for the purpose of recommending agency rules to be repealed, replaced, or modified to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens. The briefings supplemented the Committee's three-part

hearing series on the Administration's regulatory reform task forces, discussed in Intergovernmental Affairs, *infra*.

On December 8, 2017, and January 11, 2018, the Committee requested information from 46 federal agencies on their use of guidance documents over the past 10 years. Agency responses revealed significant problems with regulatory guidance practices as well as failure to comply with the Congressional Review Act and applicable regulatory procedures.

On March 14, 2018, the Committee held a hearing titled, "Shining Light on the Federal Regulatory Process." The hearing examined agency rulemaking and guidance procedures and practices. The hearing also assessed federal agencies' processes for and compliance with rulemaking and guidance procedures requirements and expanded on findings from the Committee's oversight into agency guidance procedures. Witnesses were Kris Nguyen, Acting Director, Strategic Issues Division, Government Accountability Office; Paul Noe, Vice President of Public Policy, American Forest and Paper Association; Karen Harned, Executive Director, Small Business Legal Center, National Federation of Independent Business; Nicholas Parrillo, Professor of Law, Yale Law School; and Amit Narang, Regulatory Policy Advocate, Public Citizen.

On March 16, 2018, the Committee issued a staff report detailing findings from the oversight of federal agencies' regulatory guidance documents. The report compiles information received from dozens of agencies and shows both best practices and problem areas with regulatory guidance practices.

Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service

The Committee continued its oversight of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the 115th Congress and assisted the U.S. Department of the Treasury in reform efforts to standardize the IRS rulemaking process in line with other federal agencies, along with protecting taxpayers' freedom to associate. Also, the Subcommittee inquired into the IRS's selection and resolution processes with respect to Applicable Large Employer compliance with the Employer Shared Responsibility Provision (ESRP). Finally, the Subcommittee worked with the IRS to address challenges to its customer service, information technology, and rehiring processes.

On March 8, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled, "Examining IRS Customer Service Challenges." The hearing examined the IRS's failure to efficiently direct available resources to customer service. Witnesses were the Honorable John Dalrymple, Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement, IRS; Russell Martin, Assistant Inspector General, Returns Processing and Account Services, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; and Jessica Lucas-Judy, Acting Director, Strategic Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office.

On October 25, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled, "Ongoing Management Challenges at IRS." The hearing discussed a variety of management issues at the IRS ranging from the rehiring of problematic employees to outdated information technology. Witnesses were the Honor-

able J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Gregory Kutz, Deputy Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; Jeffrey Tribiano, Deputy Commissioner for Operations Support, IRS; and Gina Garza, Chief Information Officer, IRS.

Under previous Administrations, the IRS asserted the rule-making process was interpretive rules or guidances therefore not subject to various requirements, effectively exempting the IRS from administrative laws and policies requiring regulatory accountability and transparency. On February 20, 2018, the Committee wrote the Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy, the Honorable David Kautter, at the U.S. Department of the Treasury requesting information related to Treasury's 1983 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that was providing the Department unique legal analysis for the avoidance of key regulatory process requirements. On April 11, 2018, Treasury issued a new MOA. On April 20, 2018, the Subcommittee wrote Treasury to reaffirm the implementation of the new MOA.

On April 17, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled, "Continued Oversight Over the Internal Revenue Service." The hearing examined several oversight topics at the IRS, including unjustified bonuses, unusual rule-making, repeated management failures of rehiring bad employees, customer service challenges, and the IRS's capability to implement the ESRP of the PPACA. Witnesses were the Honorable David Kautter, Acting Commissioner, IRS; the Honorable J. Russell George, Inspector General, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; and Nin Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate, IRS.

The nature of Schedule B information lends itself to misuse because such sensitive information could be utilized to target individuals for their political beliefs, just as conservative organizations were targeted by the IRS under the previous Administration. For instance, California—albeit inadvertently—publicly disclosed this sensitive information, revealing the names and addresses of donors and placing the individuals who contribute to non-profit organizations at risk of having their information misused. Because the requirement that non-profit organizations other than those described in section 501(c)(3) submit Schedule B information to the IRS is imposed through regulation, it could be eliminated through a regulatory action. On June 27, 2018, the Subcommittee wrote the Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy, the Honorable David Kautter, at the U.S. Department of the Treasury requesting a briefing on the matter. On July 16, 2018, the Treasury rescinded the regulations requiring the submission of this information by non-profit entities.

Additional Oversight Activities Undertaken and Recommendations Made and Actions Taken Thereon—Challenges to the Freedom of Speech and First Amendment Issues

To address free speech at the pulpit, the Committee examined the Johnson Amendment, which is the section of federal tax law that prohibits churches and other charitable organizations from engaging in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidates for public office. Although the provision is rarely enforced, Johnson Amendment violators risk losing their tax-ex-

empt status or facing penalty excise taxes. It can result in self-censorship by many church leaders and chills their political speech, even when current issues intersect with core tenants of their religion. On May 4, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing titled, “Examining a Church’s Right to Free Speech.” The hearing examined the Johnson Amendment’s effect on churches’ and other non-profit organizations’ freedom of speech. Witnesses were Tony Perkins, President, Family Research Council; Catherine Engelbrecht of Cat Spring, Texas; Christiana Holcomb, Legal Counsel, Alliance Defending Freedom; and Rabbi David Saperstein, former Director and Counsel, Religious Action Center.

To address free speech on college campuses, the Committee held a series of hearings on the state of intellectual and ideological diversity at public universities. On July 27, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, “Challenges to Freedom of Speech on College Campuses.” The hearing identified the harms of infringing on the right to free speech on college campuses, explored recommendations on how best to safeguard First Amendment rights, and to understand college administrators’ concerns about public safety and controversial speakers on campus. Witnesses were Nadine Strossen, John Marshall Harlan II Professor of Law, New York Law School; Ben Shapiro, Editor-in-Chief, The Daily Wire; Adam Carolla, Comedian and Filmmaker, No Safe Spaces Documentary; Dr. Michael Zimmerman, Former Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Evergreen State College; and Frederick Lawrence, Secretary and CEO, The Phi Beta Kappa Society, Anti-Defamation League.

On May 22, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, “Challenges to the Freedom of Speech on College Campuses: Part II.” The hearing further explored the current state of free speech protections on college campuses and examined first-hand accounts from the perspectives of those at the forefront of the debate. Members discussed policies and viewpoints that have enabled suppression of constitutionally protected free speech at institutions of higher education, including topics like safe spaces, free speech zones, the heckler’s veto, and security fees. Witnesses were Tyson Langhofer, Senior Counsel and Director, Center for Academic Freedom, Alliance Defending Freedom; Bret Weinstein, Professor In-Exile, Evergreen State College in Washington; Dr. Allison Stanger, Russell J. Leng ’60 Professor of International Politics and Economics, Middleburg College in Vermont; Dr. Shaun Harper, Provost Professor of Education and Business, Allen Chair in Urban Leadership, USC Race and Equity Center Executive Director, University of Southern California; and Dr. Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Princeton University in New Jersey.

To address freedom of the press, the Committee inquired into the Federal Government’s use of compulsory process on the press when all other reasonable avenues of obtaining necessary investigatory information have been foreclosed. On June 21, 2018, the Com-

mittee wrote the U.S. Department of Justice for information on its use of compulsory process and other means of obtaining documents and testimony from journalists. On July 24, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, “Shielding Sources: Safeguarding the Public’s Right to Know.” The hearing discussed H.R. 4382, the Free Flow of Information Act, a shield law that conditions the federally compelled disclosure of information by journalists. Witnesses were Lee Levine, Senior Counsel, Ballard Spahr, LLP; Sharyl Attkisson, Investigative Correspondent, *FullMeasure*; and Rick Blum, Policy Director, Reporters’ Committee for Freedom of the Press.

To address platforms like Twitter and Google deceptively behaving like publishers, on September 5, 2018, the Committee wrote the Chief Executive Officer of Twitter Jack Dorsey inquiring into the limited visibility of certain accounts associated with several high-profile Republicans and concerns about the search-related algorithm’s apparent bias against conservatives.

INTERIOR, ENERGY, & ENVIRONMENT

Energy

The Committee continued its oversight of the Department of Energy in the 115th Congress. On September 26, 2017, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a hearing to highlight the need for a permanent nuclear waste storage solution. Local officials, academics, and a think tank expert testified about delays in establishing a permanent nuclear waste storage facility and the associated costs associated with such delays.

The Committee also conducted oversight of offshore energy production. On March 21, 2017, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment held a hearing on deficiencies at the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). The hearing featured testimony from GAO and the Acting Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management at the Department of the Interior. In May 2017, Committee staff also traveled to Louisiana and met with BSEE and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) officials about offshore energy production.

Environment

In the 115th Congress, the Committee continued its oversight of systematic mismanagement at the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). The Committee sent a letter to the CSB on May 29, 2018, to obtain documents and information related to employee morale surveys. As a result of the letter, the Committee learned CSB employees had serious concerns about mismanagement at the agency. On August 7, 2018, the Committee wrote to White House Chief of Staff John Kelly summarizing the Committee’s findings and urging the nomination of a Chairman to lead the agency.

Additionally, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a field briefing to highlight Clean Air Act issues in Wisconsin. A Wisconsin state legislator and several other communities leaders testified about Sheboygan County’s nonattainment of

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as a result of upwind pollution from out-of-state sources.

The Subcommittee also focused on oversight of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. On March 6, 2018, the Subcommittee held a hearing titled, “Examining the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.” The hearing focused on communication issues between USACE and communities across the country, as well as possible solutions to these issues. The hearing featured testimony from the Director of Civil Works at USACE and representatives from the Port of Corpus Christi, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, and the Lake Carriers’ Association.

Public Lands and Public Land Agencies

On July 24, 2018, the Subcommittee held a hearing to specifically focus on grazing on public lands. Witnesses, including the President of the Public Lands Council, a sheep rancher from Montana, and a law professor, testified about impediments to grazing on federal lands and identified opportunities to improve the grazing permitting process.

The Committee also investigated the Forest Service’s decommissioning of roads. On June 26, 2018, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment held a hearing titled, “Access to Public Lands: The Effects of Forest Service Road Closures.” The hearing featured testimony from a Montana state representative, an Oregon county commissioner, a former Forest Service official, and a representative from the off-road vehicle recreation community. The Subcommittee also sent a letter to the Forest Service on August 15, 2018, requesting copies of guidance and policies related to the decommissioning of roads on Forest Service lands. The Committee received multiple briefings from the Forest Service on this issue.

The Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and Environment held a hearing entitled, “Restoring Balance to Environmental Litigation” on September 27, 2018. The hearing featured testimony from the Justice Department’s Energy and Natural Resources Division, as well as a law professor, the American Forest Resource Counsel’s General Counsel, and a representative from the American Farm Bureau. The witnesses discussed potential reforms to the Equal Access to Justice Act and the Endangered Species Act, which witnesses at previous Subcommittee hearings had identified as a major driver of environmental litigation intended to stymie federal land management agencies.

At the beginning of the 115th Congress, the Committee continued its oversight of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) law enforcement by renewing a request for documents related to BLM contracts with sheriffs in Utah, BLM law enforcement demands regarding Burning Man, and communications with and about local law enforcement officers in Utah and Nevada. On January 30, 2018, the Committee requested additional documents relating to a senior BLM law enforcement agent. Subsequently, Committee staff received several briefings on the matter from the Bureau of Land Management.

Additionally, the Committee focused on improving the visitor experience to National Parks and reducing the maintenance backlog. On April 5, 2017, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and

Environment held a hearing titled, “Improving the Visitor Experience at National Parks.” The hearing featured testimony from the Forest Service, the Boat Owners Association of the United States, and other stakeholders. The Committee also conducted oversight of the federal government’s new website development and management contract for the updated Recreation.gov website, a portal for reservations at National Park Service and Forest Service-managed facilities across the country. The Forest Service briefed the Committee multiple times on the details of the new contract and to provide updates on the transition to the new contractor and website. Committee staff also traveled to Montana and Wyoming in October 2018 to discuss maintenance backlogs and improvements to the visitor experience with National Park Service officials.

Additional Oversight Activities Undertaken and Recommendations Made and Actions Taken Thereon

Federal Permitting Oversight

The Committee held multiple hearings and conducted oversight of federal permitting throughout the 115th Congress. On March 1, 2017, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing titled, “Examining Environmental Barriers to Infrastructure Development.” The purpose of the hearing was to identify regulations and statutes inhibiting infrastructure growth, including the environmental review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On March 15, 2018, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a hearing specifically examining the effects of permitting delays under NEPA and the Clean Water Act. Testimony from a local official representing the Marquette County Road Commission and the CFO of a successful housing development company discussed how those delays discourage development and harm local communities.

On July 17, 2018, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held an additional hearing specifically focused on the fragmented regulatory process for permitting energy development projects on tribal lands—an area GAO also had included in its most recent high-risk list. Representatives from three different tribes, as well as a researcher affiliated with The Harvard Project on Indian Economic Development, discussed how permitting delays and bureaucratic inefficiencies make energy development projects on tribal lands more expensive and time consuming to develop than projects on private or non-tribal public lands. As a result, tribes often find it difficult to attract developers and investment that would boost their economies.

Subcommittee Chairman Gianforte sent a letter to GAO on August 21, 2018, requesting assistance developing a scorecard to assess agencies’ efforts to implement Executive Order (E.O.) 13807, which directs agencies with permitting authority to streamline environmental review and permitting processes. On September 6, 2018, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs evaluating the economic cost of permitting delays and evaluating how the proposals included in E.O. 13807 might improve the

current permitting landscape. The hearing is discussed in more detail in Intergovernmental Affairs, *infra*.

Federal Disaster Response and Recovery Oversight

The Committee held multiple hearings and conducted oversight of federal disaster response and recovery programs throughout the 115th Congress. On April 5, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled, “Oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Response to the Baton Rouge Flood Disaster: Part II,” to focus on the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) response to the August 2016 Baton Rouge flood. The hearing exposed mismanagement surrounding FEMA’s issuance and delivery of manufactured housing units (MHUs) and documented that a federal contractor responsible for the maintenance of MHUs only responded to 10 percent of maintenance calls. The Committee heard testimony from Governor John Bel Edwards of Louisiana; Mr. Robert J. Fenton, Jr., Acting Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Rear Admiral David Boone, U.S. Navy, Retired, President, CB&I Federal Services, LLC; and Mr. Mark Harrell, Emergency Coordinator, Livingston Parish, Louisiana.

Committee staff traveled to Louisiana in May 2017 to meet with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and FEMA officials who helped lead the federal response. In October 2017, the Committee held three Member briefings with senior federal officials following Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria and sent staff to Texas to meet with federal agencies and local officials. These meetings highlighted some of the challenges of recovery, including communication issues and staff turnover.

The same month, the Committee requested documents relating to the hurricanes from FEMA, USACE, the Department of Defense, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Homeland Security. The Committee received thousands of pages in documents from FEMA, many of which demonstrated the agency’s concern with public relations and positive press stories rather than helping victims recover.

The Committee held two subcommittee hearings relating to specific challenges facing affected U.S. territories. On March 12, 2018, the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a field hearing in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The hearing featured testimony from six federal agencies, including FEMA and USACE. While in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Subcommittee Chairman and Committee staff met with local leaders and toured damaged areas on St. John. The Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing titled, “Bureaucratic Challenges to Hurricane Recovery in Puerto Rico” on March 22, 2018. Witnesses from the Department of Energy, FEMA, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Edison Electric Institute discussed strategies to help speed up electric grid recovery in the territory.

On October 24, 2018, the Committee published a staff report titled, “Recurring Problems Hinder Federal Disaster Response and Recovery Efforts.” The report focused on many of the recurring problems—including communications failures, lack of adequate personnel training, expensive and inefficient housing units, and excessive red tape associated with federal reimbursements—that detracted from response and recovery efforts during the August 2016

Baton Rouge flood, as well as Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria in 2017.

Additionally, the Committee held a hearing on November 29, 2018, to discuss lessons-learned from these natural disasters. The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers testified at the hearing.

Oversight of the DHS Office of Inspector General

The Committee investigated a series of Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) reports that called the OIG's independence and impartiality into question. The Committee requested the full case file for the most recent Emergency Management Oversight Team (EMOT) report on July 17, 2017. Subsequently, the Committee conducted three transcribed interviews of current or former DHS OIG staff. The Committee's investigation found OIG staff routinely referred to these reports as "feel good reports" and viewed them as an opportunity to give FEMA "credit" for generally doing a good job. As a result of the Committee's investigation, the OIG withdrew the entire series of reports, launched multiple internal investigations, and implemented a number of reforms to promote independence and objectivity within the OIG. The Committee's findings were included in the staff report released on October 24, 2018, titled "Recurring Problems Hinder Federal Disaster Response and Recovery Efforts."

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

In the 115th Congress, the Committee focused on considering legislative action on programs with lapsed authorizations. The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) authorizes appropriations for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) to evaluate the costs of unfunded mandates on State and local governments. The authorization lapsed in 2001.

On January 3, 2017, Representative Virginia Foxx (R-NC) introduced H.R. 50, the Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act of 2017, which would make several reforms to UMRA based on prior Committee oversight and recommendations in Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports.

The Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing on April 26, 2017, titled "Unfunded Mandates: Examining Federally-Imposed Burdens on State and Local Government," during which State and local officials testified about how unfunded mandates affected their communities. Mr. Wayne Niederhauser, President of the Utah State Senate, expressed support for H.R. 50 because it "addresses UMRA's narrow coverage, exemptions, and loopholes," and Mr. Gary Moore, Judge/Executive of Boone County, Kentucky, highlighted H.R. 50's transparency provisions.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform considered H.R. 50 at a business meeting on March 15, 2018. Representative Foxx offered an amendment to her bill which would reauthorize appropriations for CBO to conduct UMRA evaluations. The amendment was agreed to and the bill was ordered favorably reported, as

amended. H.R. 50 passed the House on July 13, 2018. The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs ordered the bill favorably reported on September 26, 2018.

Federal Regulation and the Regulatory Process

The Committee's oversight activities of the federal regulatory process in the 115th Congress involved several hearings, roundtables, and briefings. The Committee has worked on a number of bills and bipartisan and bicameral efforts to advance comprehensive regulatory reform this Congress.

On September 6, 2017, the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Judiciary sent a letter to 24 federal agencies requesting briefings on the progress of implementing the President's E.O. 13777, the "Presidential Executive Order on Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," discussed in Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules, *supra*.

On October 24, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a joint hearing titled, "Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In." The hearing was the first of the Committee's three-part hearing series on Regulatory Reform Task Forces. The witnesses for the hearing were Mr. James Owens, Acting General Counsel, Department of Transportation; Ms. Joo Chung, Director of the Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense; Mr. Giancarlo Brizzi, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Government-Wide Policy, General Services Administration; Mr. Clyde "Wayne" Crews, Vice President for Policy, Competitive Enterprise Institute; Ms. Diane Katz, Senior Research Fellow for Regulatory Policy, the Heritage Foundation; Mr. Jitinder Kohli, Managing Director, Deloitte Consulting; and Mr. James Goodwin, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Progressive Reform.

On November 14, 2017, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing titled, "Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In: Part II." Testimony focused on efforts to implement the Administration's recent Executive Orders. The hearing revealed the Regulatory Reform Task Forces are achieving substantial progress in regulatory cleanup efforts. The witnesses for the hearing were Ms. Rebeckah Adcock, Senior Adviser, Office of the Secretary, Department of Agriculture; Mr. Robert Eitel, Senior Counselor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Education; and Mr. Charles Keckler, Associate Deputy Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

On November 29, 2017, the Committee held a joint hearing titled, "Regulatory Reform Task Forces Check-In: Part III." The hearing was the final in the three-part hearing series on the Trump Administration's Regulatory Reform Task Forces. The witnesses for the hearing were the Honorable David Bernhardt, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior; Ms. Brittany Bolen, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency; and Mr. Daniel Simmons, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

On November 30, 2017 the Committee considered H.R. 2623, titled “Lessening Regulatory Costs and Establishing a Federal Regulatory Budget Act of 2017,” which would codify the best practices of the President’s Executive Order. H.R. 2623 was introduced by Rep. Meadows on May 24, 2017. The bill was ordered favorably reported to the House by a vote of 23 to 17.

On September 27, 2018, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules held a joint hearing titled, “The Benefits of a De-regulatory Agenda: Examples from Pioneering Governments.” The hearing examined benefits achieved by countries such as Australia and Canada, and the State of Kentucky. The witnesses included Mr. Scott Brinkman, Secretary of the Executive Cabinet, Commonwealth of Kentucky; Ms. Laura Jones, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer, Canadian Federation of Independent Business; Mr. Matt Vickers, Product Sales Engineer, New Markets, Xero; and Mr. Amit Narang, Regulatory Policy Advocate, Public Citizen.

Impacts of NAAQS

On Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at the University of Wisconsin, Sheboygan, the Subcommittees on the Interior, Energy, and Environment and Intergovernmental Affairs held a field briefing titled, “Examining the Impacts of Proposed NAAQS on the Sheboygan, Wisconsin Area.” This briefing examined the region’s continued designation as an ozone non-attainment zone under the Clean Air Act. Participants in the briefing included: Steve Steinpreis, Director of Technical Services for Plymouth Foam, Inc.; Rick Esenberg, President of Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty; Lucas Vebber, General Counsel for Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce; Jane Brill, Marketing & Program Director for Sheboygan County Chamber; and Tyler Vorpagel, Wisconsin State Representative.

Electronic Medical Records Regulations

The Committee examined the continued use of a burdensome and unauthorized regulatory guidance document and a regulation issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The regulation requires hospitals to pay for the production of medical records requested by commercial third parties. On December 20, 2017, the Committee sent a letter to HHS requesting documents and supporting information pertaining to the development of the policies. Committee staff followed up with briefings with HHS staff and staff from the Office of Management and Budget to develop a better understanding of how the regulation fit within the Administration’s regulatory policy.

Cybersecurity regulations

On October 13, 2017, the Committee sent a letter to the Comptroller General of the United States, Gene L. Dodaro, requesting the Government Accountability Office to examine the extent and impact of federal information security and privacy requirements on State programs.

The Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing on July 18, 2018, titled “Regulatory Divergence: Failure of the Administrative State.” The hearing examined challenges posed by di-

vergent regulatory schemes and highlighted opportunities to sync up regulations with enhanced cooperation between the federal government, States, and private industry stakeholders. To supplement the hearing, the Subcommittee requested and received examples from six State Chief Information Officers. The witnesses included Mr. James “Bo” Reese, President, National Association of State Chief Information Officers, Office of Management and Enterprise Services, State of Oklahoma; Mr. Christopher Feeney, Executive Vice President, Bank Policy Institute; Mr. John Riggi, Senior Advisor, Cybersecurity and Risk, American Hospital Association; Mr. Oliver Sherouse, Policy Analytics Lead, Program for Economic Research and Regulation, Mercatus Center; and Mr. Robert Weissman, President, Public Citizen.

Settlement Agreements

The Committee held two joint hearings on the impact of certain settlement agreements and consent decrees on State and local governments. On May 24, 2017, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a joint hearing titled, “Examining ‘Sue and Settle’ Agreements: Part I.” The hearing examined the impact of environmental advocacy group lawsuits on businesses and landowners. The Subcommittees heard testimony from Mr. William Kovacs, Senior Vice President, Environment, Technology and Regulatory Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Darcy Helmick, Simplot Livestock Co. of Grand View, Idaho; Mr. Kent Holsinger, Holsinger Law, LLC of Denver, Colorado; and Mr. Justin Pidot, Environmental and Natural Resources Law of Denver, Colorado.

The Committee held the second joint hearing on July 25, 2017, titled, “Examining Sue and Settle’ Agreements: Part II.” The Subcommittees heard testimony from the following witnesses: Mr. John Engler, Former Governor, State of Michigan; Mr. Carl E. Geffken, City Administrator, Fort Smith, Arkansas; Dr. David Sanders, Executive Vice-President of Systems Improvement, Casey Family Programs; and Mr. Robert Weismann, President, Public Citizen.

To address some of the concerns identified through the hearings, Representative Gary Palmer (R-AL) introduced H.R. 6777, the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2018, on September 12, 2018. The legislation would create a database of consent decrees and settlement agreements across federal agencies, which will create transparency into the ongoing practice of mandating policies through one-off long standing agreements. The Committee considered H.R. 6777 at a business meeting on September 27, 2018, and ordered the bill favorably reported to the House by unanimous consent. On November 29, 2018, H.R. 6777 was agreed to under suspension of the rules of the House.

Permitting and Infrastructure

On March 1, 2017, the Subcommittees on Intergovernmental Affairs and on the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a hearing titled, “Examining Environmental Barriers to Infrastructure Development.” The hearing explored examples of regulations and statutes that have inhibited infrastructure growth in the United States and examined ways the Congress could improve the quality of American infrastructure. The Subcommittees received witness tes-

timony from Mr. Richie Beyer, County Engineer, Elmore County, Alabama; Mr. Wayne D'Angelo, Counsel for the Steel Manufacturers Association, Kelley, Drye, and Warren, LLP; and Mr. Nicholas Loris, Herbert and Joyce Morgan Research Fellow in Energy and Environmental Policy Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity, The Heritage Foundation.

On May 17, 2017, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a roundtable titled, "Red-tape Roundtable: Infrastructure." Building on the March hearing, the roundtable provided a forum for representatives from State and local governments to share their stories regarding federal regulatory challenges to infrastructure development. Participants in the roundtable offered insights into parts of the permitting process that are failing, recommendations for improving the federal permitting and review process, and discussed the role of the State and local governments.

On September 6, 2018, the Subcommittees on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Interior, Energy, and Environment held a hearing titled, "Permitting: Finding a Path Forward." The hearing looked at the economic costs of delays and inefficiencies in the federal environmental review. The Subcommittees heard testimony from Mr. Daren Bakst, Senior Research Fellow, The Heritage Foundation; Mr. Philip K. Howard, Founder and Chair, Common Good; Mr. Frank Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; and Ms. Christy Goldfuss, Senior Vice President, Energy and Environment Policy, Center for American Progress.

State and Local Affairs

Unfunded Mandates

The Committee explored the deterioration in relations between the Federal Government, the States, and local governments. On December 16, 2016, prior to the close of the 114th Congress, then-Chairman Jason Chaffetz sent letters to officials in all 50 States and the territories, seeking information regarding specific unfunded mandates imposed on their State and the cost estimates or compliance challenges that these mandates have on the State. The Committee received responses from 25 State and local governmental entities with hundreds of examples of burdensome unfunded mandates. The responses demonstrated the expensive and extensive impact federal regulations have on State and local governments.

The Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing on April 26, 2017 titled, "Unfunded Mandates: Examining Federally-Imposed Burdens on State and Local Governments." The Subcommittee heard testimony from several State and local officials about how the unfunded mandates affected their communities. Witnesses included the following: Mr. Wayne Niederhauser, President, Utah State Senate; Mr. Jim Davis, Senator, North Carolina State Senate; Mr. Gary Moore, Judge/Executive, Boone County, Kentucky; Mr. Jermaine Reed, Councilman, City of Kansas City, Missouri; and Mr. Jeff McKay, Supervisor, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Alexandria, Virginia. The witnesses highlighted specific examples of how unfunded federal mandates limit budgetary flexibility and impact their business communities. They provided

suggestions as to how federal objectives can continue to be advanced without burdening States and local governments.

Federalism

During the 115th Congress, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs worked to establish effective relationships with key intergovernmental partners. Throughout the Congress, the Subcommittee reached out to and coordinated with the Speaker's Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs, chaired by Representative Rob Bishop (R-UT). The Subcommittee also regularly communicated with and coordinated with major intergovernmental State and local organizations, commonly referred to as the Big Seven, in addition to many other organizations like the Western Governors Association, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, and many others. Regular communication and consultation assisted the subcommittee in its work across many issue areas, including cybersecurity of State elections, legislative initiatives, unfunded mandates oversight, permitting and infrastructure policies, and regulatory reform.

On February 27, 2018, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held a hearing titled, "Federalism Implications of Treating States as Stakeholders." The hearing was held in collaboration with the Speaker's Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs. Three governors testified at the hearing: the Honorable Gary Richard Herbert, Governor of Utah; the Honorable Susanna Martinez, Governor of New Mexico; and the Honorable Clement Leroy "Butch" Otter, Governor of Idaho. During the hearing, the governors shared concerns about critical shortfalls where existing federal practices were not meeting the States' role as partners. The hearing also examined the critical role of States in the federal decision-making process and explored how federal agencies engage with states.

Fiscal Pressures

State and local governments face fiscal challenges related to national disasters, unfunded federal mandates, underfunded pensions, and increasing health care costs. On November 5, 2018, Chairman Gowdy and Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee Chairman Palmer wrote to GAO requesting an evaluation of fiscal pressures on State and local governments.

GSAXcess

The General Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for disposing and distributing excess federal property through the GSAXcess program, which is designed to reallocate excess federal resources to State or local agencies. On January 11, 2018, Chairwoman Virginia Foxx of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and Chairman Trey Gowdy of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform requested the Government Accountability Office (GAO) evaluate the program for potential favoritism to ineligible parties and the impact that inappropriate allocation has made on State and local agencies.

Federal Financial Management

The Committee is responsible for oversight of agency compliance with federal improper payment laws. The Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs focused oversight efforts on improper payments in State administered programs and programs with significant impacts on State and local governments. Hearings on this topic included:

- On May 25, 2017, the Subcommittees on Government Operations and Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing to examine the Department of Education’s progress towards estimating improper payments titled, “Improper Payments in the Federal Government: Student Aid,” discussed *supra*.
- On April 12, 2018, the Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, “Improper Payments in State-Administered Programs: Medicaid,” discussed *supra*.
- On May 9, 2018, the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing titled, “Program Integrity for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program,” discussed *supra*.
- On September 26, 2018, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules held a joint hearing titled “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Fraud,” discussed *supra*.

Grant Reform

The Committee continued to examine the efficiency and transparency of agency grantmaking processes. This work built upon efforts by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in the 114th Congress to identify mismanagement of funds across grantmaking agencies. On July 25, 2018, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled, “Federal Grant Management.” The hearing examined opportunities to modernize the federal grantmaking process. The Subcommittee heard testimony from Mr. Hudson Hollister, Executive Director, Data Coalition; Ms. Michelle Sager, Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; Ms. Andrea L. Brandon, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Grants and Acquisition Policy and Accountability, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Mr. Peter Tyler, Senior Policy Advisor, Project on Government Oversight; and Ms. Natalie Keegan, Analyst, American Federalism and Emergency Management, Congressional Research Service.

Cybersecurity—Cybersecurity of U.S. Elections

In the 115th Congress, the Committee examined cybersecurity vulnerabilities within the American electoral system. On November 29, 2017, the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Intergovernmental Affairs held a hearing titled “Cybersecurity of Voting Machines.” This hearing is discussed further in Information Technology, *supra*. The Committee also held a hearing on July 24, 2018, titled “Cyber-Securing the Vote: Ensuring the Integrity of the U.S. Election System.” The hearing is discussed in more detail in Information Technology, *supra*.

Homeland Security—Disaster Response

The Committee conducted oversight of mismanagement within the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) disaster response processes and procedures. In the 114th Congress, the Committee held a hearing on recovery efforts following the August 2016 Baton Rouge flood disaster.

The Committee followed up these efforts with a hearing on April 5, 2017, titled, "Oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Response to the Baton Rouge Flood Disaster: Part II," discussed in Interior, Energy, and Environment, *supra*.

Pay Cap Violation oversight: The Committee learned FEMA made nearly \$1 million in overpayments to personnel in 2017, in violation of the statutory annual premium pay cap. Subsequently, the Committee learned FEMA also made unauthorized overpayments in 2016. DHS confirmed on January 19 other DHS components also made overpayments. The Committee sent a letter to the Department on January 29 regarding violations of the statutory annual premium pay cap at the Department and FEMA. DHS OIG documents received as part of a separate matter indicate (1) DHS and FEMA have been shirking its responsibility to manage personnel in accordance with the pay cap for years, and (2) the OIG knew about the problem and failed to report on it.

DHS OIG Audit oversight: In June, the DHS OIG released report on FEMA's response to the August 2016 Baton Rouge flood containing unfounded and inaccurate characterizations and conclusions, which the Committee raised with the OIG. The OIG subsequently withdrew the report. Documents produced in the Committee's investigation of the incident indicated the report was intentionally written as a "feel good" report for FEMA, and there may have been other instances where the OIG placed the Department's interests over unbiased and factual reporting. See Interior, Energy, & Environment, *supra*, for further information.

Canines

The Committee examined the use of canines as part of the government's national security infrastructure and the increased use of canines by agencies. On October 3, 2017, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing with the Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security, titled, "Innovations in Security: Examining the Use of Canines." The Subcommittees heard testimony from Ms. Sheila Goffe, Vice President for Government Relations, American Kennel Club; Lieutenant Scott Smith, Orlando Police Department, Orlando, Florida; and Dr. Cynthia M. Otto, Director, Penn Vet Working Dog Center, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. The hearing explored problems related to a dwindling supply of canines in the United States with a simultaneous increase in demand, resulting in increased prices and a shortage of working dogs for law enforcement and security agencies.

Troubled Asset Relief Program

The Committee continued to conduct oversight of fraud and waste within the Treasury Department's Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). In August 2017, the Special Inspector General for TARP, Ms. Christy Goldsmith-Romero, issued a report detailing

that Treasury had not conducted effective oversight of State management of the Hardest Hit Fund (HHF), leading to approximately \$3 million in improper or wasteful TARP expenditures. On April 24, 2018, the Chairmen of the Intergovernmental Affairs and Government Operations Subcommittees, Rep. Gary Palmer (R-AL) and Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC), sent a letter to Mr. Lorenzo Rasetti, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Financial Stability, U.S. Department of the Treasury, requesting documents and information relating to the Department's review and determination on administrative costs questioned by SIGTARP following the issuance of a report on August 25, 2017. The Committee received the requested documents on May 8, 2018.

On May 22, 2018, the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Subcommittee on Government Operations held a joint hearing titled, "Ten Years of TARP: Examining the Hardest Hit Fund." The hearing marked the ten-year anniversary of TARP and focused on the Hardest Hit Fund's (HHF) foreclosure mitigation performance record. The Subcommittees received testimony from Ms. Christy Goldsmith-Romero, Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, U.S. Department of the Treasury; Mr. Kipp Kranbuhl, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Small Business, Community Development and Affordable Housing Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions, U.S. Department of the Treasury; Ms. Verise Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, Nevada Affordable Housing Assistance Corporation; Ms. Cathy James, Business Development Manager, Alabama Housing Finance Authority; and Mr. Scott Farmer, Executive Director, North Carolina Housing Finance Agency.

Housing

The Committee investigated Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mismanagement within the Alexander County Housing Authority (ACHA). On June 22, 2017, Chairman Palmer, Congressman Mike Bost (R-IL), and the House Committee on Financial Services sent a joint letter to HUD Secretary Ben Carson requesting copies of audits, inspections, and related documents regarding the poor condition of public housing units managed by the Alexander County Housing Authority. The Committee received thousands of pages of documents ranging from 1998 to 2017, which revealed that HUD properties in Cairo, Illinois had deteriorated beyond rehabilitation over the course of several decades. Committee staff continue to coordinate with the HUD Inspector General, which issued an evaluation of the program in the summer of 2018.

Summary of Additional Oversight Activities Undertaken, and Recommendations Made and Actions Taken Thereon

Challenges to Free Speech and the First Amendment

The Committee explored troubling trends on college campus regarding freedom of speech including two hearings held jointly by the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs and the Subcommittee on Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules: a hearing on July 27, 2017, titled, "Challenges to Freedom of Speech on College Campuses" and a hearing on May 22, 2018, titled, "Challenges to the Freedom of Speech on College Campuses: Part

II,” both discussed in Healthcare, Benefits, and Administrative Rules, *supra*.

Evidence-Based Policymaking

On September 26, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled, “Recommendations of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking.” The hearing examined recommendations that Congress could use to improve access to data, protect privacy and confidentiality, and facilitate the creation of evidence-based policies. The witnesses included Dr. Katharine G. Abraham, Chair of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking; Dr. Ron Haskins, Co-Chair of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking; Mr. Robert Shea, Commissioner, Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking; and Dr. Latanya Sweeney, Commissioner, Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking.

On October 31, 2017, Speaker Paul Ryan introduced H.R. 4174, the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2017. H.R. 4174 codified several of the recommendations from the Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission. On November 2, 2017, the Committee ordered the bill favorably reported by voice vote and on November 15, 2017, H.R. 4174 was agreed to under suspension of the rules in the House.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT Acquisition Oversight and Reform

During the 115th Congress, the Committee continued to focus on Information Technology (IT) acquisition and specifically implementation of the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA). The Government Operations and Information Technology Subcommittees also did extensive oversight of federal acquisition of IT and related joint hearings, discussed *supra*.

Cybersecurity

The Committee prioritized oversight of the cybersecurity of federal agencies in the 115th Congress.

On April 4, 2017, the IT Subcommittee held a hearing titled “Reviewing Federal IT Workforce Challenges and Possible Solutions.” The hearing examined the development, recruitment, and retention of the federal government’s IT and cybersecurity workforce. Possible solutions explored included changes in hiring and compensation policies as well as a rotational private-government workforce. Members heard testimony from Steven Cooper, Former Chief Information Officer, U.S. Department of Commerce; Elizabeth Hyman, Executive Vice President, Public Advocacy, CompTIA; Lisa Depew, Head of Industry and Academic Outreach, Intel; Dan Waddell, Managing Director, (ISC)²; Nick Marinos, Assistant Director, Information Technology, Government Accountability Office; Debora Plunkett, Board Member, Strategic Advisory Board, International Consortium of Minority Cybersecurity Professionals.

The IT Subcommittee held a hearing titled “Cybersecurity of the Internet of Things” on October 3, 2017. The hearing examined the use of devices that comprise the Internet of Things (IoT) and their current and potential uses in federal government. The Committee heard testimony from Matthew J. Eggers, Executive Director of Cy-

bersecurity Policy, U.S Chamber of Commerce; Josh Corman, Director of Cyber Statecraft Initiative, Atlantic Council; Tommy Ross, Senior Director of Policy, Software Alliance; and Ray O'Farrell, CTI, VMWare.

On November 29, 2017, the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing titled, "Cybersecurity of Voting Machines." The hearing assessed the current state of cybersecurity regarding vote tabulation machines and identified actions that the States, the Trump Administration, and Congress can take to ensure that voting machines were secure prior to the 2018 midterm elections. The following individuals testified: Christopher C. Krebs, Acting Under Secretary, National Protection and Program Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security; Tom Schedler, Louisiana Secretary of State; Edgardo Cortés, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Elections; Dr. Matthew Blaze, Associate Professor, Computer and Information Science, University of Pennsylvania; and Susan Klein Hennessey, Fellow in National Security Law, Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution. The witnesses testified on the efforts of foreign states to hack into voting databases and voting machines, the creation of a federal election security council to enhance coordination between federal agencies and State and local election officials, and the future risks posed to the electoral system.

On December 7, 2017, the Subcommittee on Information Technology held a hearing titled, "Oversight of IT and Cybersecurity at the Department of Veterans Affairs." The Subcommittee heard testimony from Mr. Scott Blackburn, Acting Chief Information Officer, Department of Veteran Affairs; Dominic Cussatt, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Veteran Affairs; David A. Powner, Director, IT Management Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office. The hearing examined the Department of Veterans Affairs information technology systems, including Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) performance, development of the Electronic Health Record system, and efforts to modernize its Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA).

On March 14, 2018, the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Government Operations held a joint hearing titled, "State of Play: Federal IT in 2018." The hearing reviewed the state of federal information technology in 2018, including government-wide plans for information technology (IT) modernization and cybersecurity. The witnesses were David Powner, Director of IT Management Issues, Government Accountability Office; Margaret Weichert, Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget; Bill Zielinski, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the IT Category, General Services Administration; Jeanette Manfra, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Cybersecurity and Communications, Department of Homeland Security.

On March 20, 2018, the Subcommittee on Information Technology and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee of the House Homeland Security Committee held a joint hearing titled, "CDM: Government Perspectives on Security and Modernization." The hearing examined the status of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) Program rollout at specific agencies. CIOs from

the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, U.S. Department of Energy, and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and Kevin Cox, CDM Program Manager, Department of Homeland Security, testified before the Subcommittees.

On July 24, 2018, the Committee held a hearing titled “Cybersecuring the Vote: Ensuring the Integrity of the U.S. Election System.” The hearing built on the November 29, 2017, Subcommittee on Information Technology and Intergovernmental Affairs joint hearing “Cybersecurity of Voting Machines,” and examined the status of \$380 million in grant funds that Congress appropriated in March 2018 for State election security expenses. Members heard testimony from Christopher Krebs, Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Thomas Hicks, Commissioner, U.S. Election Assistance Commission; Maggie Toulouse Oliver, Secretary of State, New Mexico; and Ricky Hatch, County Auditor, Weber County, Utah.

On July 25, 2018, the Subcommittees on Information Technology and Government Operations held a joint hearing titled, “GAO High Risk Focus: Cybersecurity,” discussed in Governmental Operations, *supra*.

Emerging Technologies

The Committee prioritized examining the emerging technology of artificial intelligence in the 115th Congress. The IT Subcommittee held a series of hearings to increase understanding of artificial intelligence. At the conclusion of the hearings, Information Technology Subcommittee Chairman Will Hurd and Ranking Member Robin Kelly released a white paper titled “Rise of the Machines: Artificial Intelligence and its Growing Impact on U.S. Policy.” The paper presents lessons learned from the Subcommittee’s oversight and hearings on AI and sets forth key recommendations for moving forward. While the Subcommittee’s work examined a number of challenges facing AI, the paper specifically focuses on four issue areas, and provides concrete recommendations for addressing each. The areas are workforce, privacy, biases, and malicious use of AI.

The hearings discussed above were as follows:

- “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part I,” on February 14, 2018 with Dr. Amir Khosrowshahi, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, Artificial Intelligence Products Group, Intel; Dr. Charles Isbell, Senior Associate Dean, College of Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology; Dr. Oren Etzioni, Chief Executive Officer, Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence; and Dr. Ian Buck, Vice President and General Manager, Tesla Data Center Business, NVIDIA. This hearing provided an overview of the technology and examined development, uses, barriers to adoption and potential challenges and advantages of government use of artificial intelligence.
- “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part II, Artificial Intelligence and the Federal Government,” on March 7, 2018 with Mr. John O. Everett, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Information Innovation Office, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, U.S. Department of Defense; Keith Nakasone, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Information Technology Category Acquisition Management, U.S. General Services Administration; Mr. James F. Kurose, Ph.D., Assistant Director, Computer Science

and Information Science and Engineering, National Science Foundation; and Mr. Douglas Maughan, Ph.D., Division Director, Cybersecurity Division, Homeland Security Advanced Research Project Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. This hearing focused on the federal government’s engagement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how government agencies can adopt AI to make citizen services more effective and efficient.

- “Game Changers: Artificial Intelligence Part III, Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy,” on April 18, 2018 with Gary Shapiro, President, Consumer Technology Association; Jack Clark, Director, OpenAI; Terah Lyons, Executive Director, Partnership on AI; and Ben Buchanan, Postdoctoral Fellow, Cyber Security Project, Science, Technology, and Public Policy Program, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School. The hearing examined the merits and costs of the government role in potential solutions to challenges including bias, ethics, global competitiveness, privacy and transparency.

- “Countering China: Ensuring America Remains the World Leader in Advanced Technologies and Innovation,” on September 26, 2018. The hearing focused on Chinese efforts to gain knowledge and skill through legal and illegal means in emerging technologies including artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and 5G. Members of the Subcommittee heard testimony on the effects Chinese trade practices have on American companies working to enter Chinese markets and discussed how to protect American economic and security interests. The witnesses were John Neuffer, President and Chief Executive Officer, Semiconductor Industry Association; Robert Atkinson, Ph.D., President, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation; Dean Cheng, Senior Research Fellow, Asian Studies Center, The Heritage Foundation; and Sarah Cook, Senior Research Analyst, Freedom House.

Privacy

The Committee held hearings focused on privacy in the digital age. On March 22, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled “Law Enforcement’s Use of Facial Recognition Technology.” The hearing reviewed the current state of facial recognition technology (FRT), the FBI’s use of FRT and the various uses, benefits, and challenges associated with FRT. The hearing explored privacy concerns surrounding FRT, including the FBI’s failure to comply with the Privacy Act when developing and deploying FRT on its photo database. The hearing also explored the FBI’s use of FRT on state driver’s license databases. The witnesses were Kimberly Del Greco, Deputy Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Diana Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Charles Romine, Ph.D., Director, Information Technology Lab, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Alvaro Bedoya, Executive Director, Center on Privacy and Technology, Georgetown Law; Benji Hutchinson, Senior Director, NEC Corporation of America On Behalf of The International Biometrics + Identity Association; and Jennifer Lynch, Senior Staff Attorney, Electronic Frontier Foundation.

On May 23, 2017, the IT Subcommittee joined with the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security to hold a joint hearing titled “Protecting Americans Identities: Examining Efforts to Limit the Use of Social Security Numbers.” The hearing examined federal agencies’ efforts to reduce their use of Social Security Numbers. The hearing explored the effects modernization of technology can have on agencies’ ability to reduce their use, storage and transmission of Social Security Numbers. The hearing also examined the potential to develop unique federal identifiers that facilitate secure online transactions. The witnesses were Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; Marianna LaCanfora, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration; David DeVries, Chief Information Officer, Office of Personnel Management; Karen Jackson, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and John Oswalt, Executive Director for Privacy, Office of Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Additional Oversight Activities Undertaken and Recommendations Made and Actions Taken Thereon

The Subcommittee on Information Technology held a hearing on October 24, 2017, titled “Oversight of Federal Political Advertisement Laws and Regulations.” The hearing examined the different regulations and laws that govern political advertisement disclaimers and disclosures. The hearing also highlighted the importance of free speech and First Amendment implications of attempting to regulate political speech. Members heard testimony and posed questions to the following witnesses: Allen Dickerson, Legal Director, Center for Competitive Politics; David Chavern, President and Chief Executive Officer, News Media Alliance; Jack N. Goodman, Owner, Law Offices of Jack N. Goodman; Randall Rothenberg, President and Chief Executive Officer, Interactive Advertising Bureau; and Ian Vandewalker, Senior Counsel, Brennan Center for Justice, Democracy Program.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Federal Law Enforcement

Decisions Made and Not Made by the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2016 and 2017

On October 24, 2017, the Committees on Judiciary and Oversight launched a joint investigation into Department of Justice (DOJ) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) decision-making in the context of 2016 Presidential election. The Committees interviewed DOJ and FBI personnel, held hearings, and reviewed thousands of documents related to potential irregularities related to the FBI investigations of former Secretary Hillary Clinton’s private email server and presidential candidate Donald J. Trump’s campaign associates.

On December 19, 2017, and April 16, 2018, Chairmen Goodlatte and Gowdy sent letters to DOJ requesting key witnesses be made available for interviews. The Committees interviewed 18 individuals, including: former Attorney General Loretta Lynch, former FBI Director James Comey, former FBI Deputy Director Andrew

McCabe, former FBI chief of staff James Rybicki, FBI assistant director for Counterintelligence Division Bill Priestap, former FBI executive assistant of the National Security Branch John Giacalone, former FBI deputy assistant director Peter Strzok, former FBI assistant general counsel Lisa Page, DOJ deputy assistant attorney general George Toscas, FBI deputy assistant director Jonathan Moffa, former associate deputy attorney general Bruce Ohr, former FBI principal deputy general counsel Trisha Anderson, assistant director in charge of FBI New York field office Bill Sweeney, former FBI General Counsel James Baker, Fusion GPS chief executive Glenn Simpson, former Fusion GPS contractor Nellie Ohr, FBI office of general counsel unit chief Sally Moyer, and former Donald J. Trump campaign advisor George Papadopoulos.

The Committees reviewed unclassified and classified documents as part of their joint investigation, including over 60,000 documents and approximately 40,000 text messages of FBI personnel. DOJ produced to the Committees 27,155 unclassified documents and a large quantity of classified documents.

Separate from the Committees' investigation, on June 14, 2018 the Inspector General for the Department of Justice, Michael Horowitz, published his review of FBI and DOJ actions in advance of the 2016 Presidential Election. Horowitz appeared before both Committees in a joint public hearing on June 19, 2018, to testify to his findings. On July 12, 2018, former FBI agent Peter Strzok testified to both Committees at a joint public hearing after concerns over his potentially political biased text messages were discovered despite his involvement investigating matters related to both presidential candidates.

Operation Fast & Furious

The Committee has been investigating the Department of Justice's fundamentally flawed gun trafficking investigation since February 2011. Operation Fast and Furious relied on the tactic of "gunwalking," where ATF agents abandoned surveillance on known straw purchasers who were obtaining weapons on behalf of Mexican drug cartels. Fast and Furious allowed roughly 2,000 firearms to walk. Only a fraction of those guns have been recovered. This reckless operation finally came to an end after the death of U.S. Border Agent Brian Terry. In 2012, the Committee issued a subpoena to then- Attorney General Eric Holder. On June 20, 2012, the Committee voted to refer Attorney General Holder to the full House for a contempt vote for failing to provide documents to Congress responsive to the subpoena. On June 28, 2012, the full House in a bipartisan vote held Attorney General Holder in civil and criminal contempt. The House filed suit in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. in August 2012, and litigated the matter through 2016, when the Judge found in favor of the Committee. The Court's reasoning, however, relied on the proposition that expanded the Executive's ability to invoke executive privilege for materials created at a department or agency. The Committee has appealed this decision to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. On January 13, 2017, after the election of 2016, which ushered in Republican control of the Executive Branch, the Committee and the Justice Department filed a motion with the court to hold the appeal in abeyance pending settlement. On March

7, 2018, after reaching a tentative settlement, the parties filed a motion in United States District Court for an indicative ruling requesting the relief of vacatur. On October 22, 2018, the Court denied this motion. The parties remain amenable to a settlement.

United States Secret Service

The Subcommittees on Government Operations and National Security worked together to continue exercising oversight in the form of hosting regular briefings, staff visits to USSS facilities, and drafting and passing legislation to provide temporary financial relief in the form of overtime pay for the operational personnel most impacted by the agency's management challenges.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives

The Committee conducted oversight over the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives specifically how it manages its confidential informants and income-generating operations. The Committee requested and received documents and briefings pursuant to its investigation. ATF has since changed its policy and no longer approves these income-generating operations.

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

The Committee investigated the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), uncovering problems of mismanagement, questionable hiring practices, and inappropriate travel among the senior leadership. As part of its investigation, the Committee requested and reviewed documents, conducted transcribed interviews, and visited FLETC's headquarters in Glynco, Georgia.

National Security and Foreign Operations

Embassy Construction and Security Investigation

The Committee continued its oversight of how the Department of State (State) constructs and secures diplomatic facilities abroad. Much of the Committee's work focused on State's switch from standard embassy design, which stresses security and functionality, to a program named "design excellence," which stresses openness and innovation. Under the current administration, State has shifted away from the so-called "design excellence" program. As part of its oversight, the Committee visited embassies and consulates in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Israel. The State Department provided the Committee periodic briefings on the status of specific new embassy construction sites and lessons learned from the "design excellence" program. Also, at the Committee's request, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) also conducted studies on State's embassy construction program and briefed the Committee on its findings.

Iran and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (Iran Nuclear Agreement)

The Subcommittee on National Security continued its oversight of U.S. policy toward Iran and the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The Subcommittee held a hearing on April 5, 2017, titled "Assessing the Iran Deal," in which the Subcommittee examined the JCPOA's fundamental flaws,

weaknesses in the prior administration's enforcement of the agreement's provisions and implementation of Iran sanctions, and Iran's continued aggression in the face of the agreement. Following the United States' withdrawal from the JCPOA, the Subcommittee held a June 6, 2018 hearing titled, "Protecting America from a Bad Deal: Ending U.S. Participation in the Nuclear Agreement with Iran." This hearing examined the reasons for U.S. withdrawal and discussed policy options for countering Iran's threat to the United States and its interests.

Afghanistan

The Committee continues to work with the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) to perform oversight of U.S. operations in the country. The Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing on November 1, 2017, titled "Overview of 16 Years of U.S. Involvement in Afghanistan" to explore the successes and challenges associated with rebuilding Afghanistan after sixteen years of involvement.

Homeland Security

Transportation Security

The Committee continued an investigation from the 114th Congress of mismanagement, employee misconduct, and retaliation at the Transportation Security Administration. Whistleblowers alleged, and the Committee found, senior TSA officials engaged in recurrent misconduct with minimal consequences. The Committee found TSA leadership inappropriately used involuntary directed reassignments to retaliate against disfavored employees and whistleblowers. Then TSA—under the direction of DHS' Office of General Counsel—withheld documents and information from Congress and the Office of Special Counsel. The Committee conducted transcribed interviews with current and former TSA officials, a deposition of the Deputy General Counsel, and fielded whistleblower complaints regarding the TSA. On September 25, 2018, the Committee released a staff report summarizing its findings. On September 26, 2018, the Committee held a hearing titled, "Examining Misconduct and Retaliation at TSA." The goal of the hearing was to highlight the Committee's findings from its investigation, examine what actions TSA is taking to improve the disciplinary process and prevent retaliation, and seek a commitment from TSA to cooperate with the Committee's investigations. Administrator David Pekoske testified about the efforts he has taken since taking the lead at TSA and assured Congress he would ingest the findings of the report and assess any issues not already addressed.

Border Security and Immigration

The Committee continues to exercise oversight of U.S. immigration policy and border security. On April 27, 2017, the Committee held a hearing titled "The Border Wall: Strengthening our National Security." The Committee aimed to identify the benefits of a border wall which would bolster the United States' national security, public safety and economic interests. The hearing also helped Members understand the cost estimates of a border wall and highlight other successful physical border security barriers, including walls in

Israel and San Diego as a comparison. The witnesses testifying at the hearing included immigration and law enforcement experts, as well as victims and community organizers directly impacted by cross-border crime and violence.

Additionally, on April 9, 2018, the Committee held a hearing titled “A ‘Caravan’ of Illegal Immigrants: A Test of U.S. Borders.” The Committee explored the logistical, ethical, and legal challenges associated with masses of migrants arriving at the southwest border seeking asylum in the U.S. The Committee questioned what the Administration was or should have been doing differently to secure the border and maintain the integrity of the U.S. immigration system. The hearing highlighted the impact of surging asylum seekers on law enforcement and the U.S. immigration system, and examined what actions were needed to be taken by the Department of Homeland Security to prepare for large groups of asylum seekers to present themselves at the U.S. southwest border. The hearing also explored what U.S. authorities do to partner with Mexican law enforcement and immigration authorities to improve the situation going forward. Witnesses included representatives from the National Border Patrol Council, Texas Department of Public Safety, and subject matter experts on U.S. immigration policy.

On May 16, 2018, the Committee held a roundtable titled “Fraud and Misuse of B-1 visas in lieu of H-1B visas.” The Committee assembled members of the administration from all the stakeholder agencies in the visa process to learn about the exploitation of B-1 visas by U.S. employers; examine the roles and responsibilities of U.S. government agencies related to identifying, investigating, and mitigating B1 and H-1B visa fraud; explore current gaps in U.S. policy; and hear directly from stakeholders about potential solutions that may help strengthen their capabilities. The witnesses included: Morgan Parker, Acting Managing Director of the Visa Office, Bureau of Consular Affairs, U.S. Department of State; Keith Sonderling, Senior Policy Advisor, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor; Ron Thomas, Chief, Security and Fraud Office, Service Center Operations Directorate, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Lloyd Temple, Unit Chief, Homeland Security Investigations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security; and Luis Mejia, Director, Enforcement Programs Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

As a part of its continued oversight efforts, Committee staff also traveled to San Ysidro, California, and McAllen, Texas, in November 2018 to inspect Border Patrol sites and meet with Border Patrol agents. The Committee staff also inspected border wall prototypes and received a tour of the border to learn about terrain challenges and creative ways the agents are using technology to assist in their efforts.

International Organizations and Initiatives

The Committee conducted oversight of the United States Agency for International Development’s (USAID) grant funding. After reports of USAID granting funds to organizations associated with terrorism, the Committee sent a letter September 18, 2018, requesting

documentation from USAID and the Department of Treasury regarding those grants.

The Committee continues to work with the United States Committee on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), following progress to protect the right to religious freedom worldwide. The Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing October 11, 2017, “Review of the U.S. Government’s Role in Protecting International Religious Freedom.” Witnesses from the State Department, USCIRF, the Religious Freedom Institute, and Human Rights First testified on religious freedom as a national security issue and the Department of State’s adherence to The Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act. On December 14, 2017, the Committee sent a letter to Secretary of State Rex Tillerson requesting documents indicating the Department’s efforts to comply with the Frank Wolf Act. The Committee continues to communicate with the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and the State Department regarding efforts to advance religious freedom overseas, and will monitor the outcomes and next steps associated with the first International Religious Freedom Ministerial held July 24–26, 2018.

Terrorism

The National Security Subcommittee continued to exercise its oversight of U.S. efforts to counter violent extremism. On July 27, 2017, the Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing titled, “Combating Homegrown Extremism.” At this hearing, the Committee heard from private sector witnesses with expertise on community engagement strategies employed to combat violent extremism, and a government official with knowledge of the Department of Homeland Security’s plan to distribute \$10 million in CVE grant funding to community outreach organizations. The Subcommittee also held a hearing on January 17, 2018 to explore the U.S. military endeavors to counter radical Islamism in a hearing titled, “Battlefield Successes and Challenges—Recent Efforts to Win the War against ISIS.”

The Committee conducted oversight over the U.S. Government’s response to terrorist threats. A July 11, 2018, National Security Subcommittee hearing titled, “The Muslim Brotherhood’s Global Threat” examined the Muslim Brotherhood’s threat to the United States and its interests throughout the world and potential U.S. responses including terrorist designations.

The Committee investigated allegations the Obama Administration undermined law enforcement actions against the terrorist group Hezbollah. After the Committee began its investigation, the Department of Justice announced the creation of the Hezbollah Financing and Narcoterrorism Team to pursue Hezbollah’s transnational criminal operations, including a reexamination of the cases at issue. The Committee also investigated USAID’s issuance of a \$200,000 sub-award to the Sudan-based Islamic Relief Agency (ISRA), a designated terrorist entity with a history of providing financial support to Osama bin Laden and Palestinian terrorist organizations including Hamas.

Criminal Justice Reform

The Committee conducted oversight of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) through hearings and inquiries exploring matters of mismanagement, misconduct, and ineffective use of resources. Two Committee hearings addressed criminal justice reform policies that would provide more support to inmates reentering society and thus reduce recidivism. A two-panel hearing June 28, 2017, “Criminal Justice Reform and Efforts to Reduce Recidivism,” allowed Members to question Senators, policy experts, South Carolina’s Department of Corrections director, and a former district judge regarding their experience and recommendations. This first hearing also addressed the subject of a May 10, 2017, letter from then-Chairman Chaffetz requesting documents about a BOP facility’s handling of inmate misconduct. The Committee hearing on December 13, 2017, entitled “Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons and Inmate Reentry,” provided Committee members the opportunity to question new BOP Director Mark Inch, Inspector General Michael Horowitz, the GAO, and policy experts. This second hearing focused on BOP’s policies and procedures for inmate reentry programs.

The Committee’s investigation into employee misconduct involved conversations with over a dozen whistleblower BOP employees, three letters to BOP requesting documents and briefings, four briefings with Department of Justice and BOP regarding procedure and policy, and a hearing November 28, 2018. The Committee’s November hearing provided a venue for Members to hear from the Department’s Inspector General regarding findings that BOP needed to improve its management of female inmates while also giving BOP the opportunity to respond to other questions of mismanagement uncovered during the course of the Committee’s investigation.

