

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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**MEMORANDUM**

May 2, 2025

**To: Members, Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services**

**From: Committee Staff**

**Re: Hearing titled “Examining the Growth of the Welfare State, Part II”**

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. ET, in room 2247 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services will host a hearing titled “Examining the Growth of the Welfare State, Part II.”

**I. BACKGROUND:**

Annually, the federal government spends more than \$1.2 trillion on more than 80 welfare programs, including housing assistance programs.

**II. HEARING PURPOSE:**

This hearing will examine the causes of growth in federal welfare programs and opportunities to realign incentives to benefit the American people.

**III. WITNESSES:**

**The Honorable Ben Carson, M.D.**

Former Secretary

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Mr. Chris Edwards**

Kilts Family Chair in Fiscal Studies

The Cato Institute

**Mr. Howard Husock**

Senior Fellow, Domestic Policy Studies

The American Enterprise Institute