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September 12, 2017

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Gowdy, Ranking Member Cummings, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Senior Executives Association (SEA) – which represents the interests of career federal executives in the Senior Executive Service (SES), and those in Senior Level (SL), Scientific and Professional (ST), and equivalent positions – I write to offer perspective on the legislation being considered at the Committee’s September 13th markup.

SEA generally supports the measures under consideration.

The *Connected Government Act* (H.R.2331) is a welcome effort to ensure federal websites meet modern standards of mobile-friendliness, a necessity given the large percentages of Americans who use mobile devices for significant portions of their internet needs.

The *Promoting Value-Based Procurement Act of 2017* (H.R.3019) promises to improve the quality and efficiency of agency procurement by honing the criteria frequently used to justify purchases. Likewise, the *Federal Acquisition Savings Act of 2017* (H.R.3071) wisely considers rental when considering procurement options, an additional tool that should better equip federal decision-makers to choose the option that both has the maximum impact and represents the best value for taxpayers.

The *Reporting Use of Social Media in Clearance Investigations Act of 2017* is a thoughtful effort to establish the current status of social media use in clearance investigations, as well as to determine all options for the future in a bid to ensure the security clearance screening process is simultaneously effective, equitable, and efficient.

Finally, the *Secret Service Recruitment and Retention Act of 2017* is an important step toward relieving some of the recent pressures experienced by an underappreciated and overextended Secret Service workforce.

Thank you for considering SEA’s views throughout this process. If you have any questions or comments regarding SEA’s perspective, or would like to speak about these issues in greater detail, please contact SEA Executive Director Jason Briefel at Briefel@seniorexecs.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Valdez
President

Cc: Members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee