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December 12, 2023

The Honorable James Comer  
2410 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Comer,

I'd first like to thank you for hosting a Member Day hearing on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. I am proud to serve on this committee and appreciate the opportunity to share with you an important piece of legislation that would bring much needed transparency to the federal government.

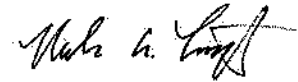
Earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 3642, the *Executive Branch Accountability and Transparency Act*. This legislation would require the Office of Government Ethics to create a user-friendly, searchable database for all personnel ethics waivers, recusals, and disclosures for non-career executive branch employees. I am proud to share that H.R. 3642 has received balanced, bipartisan backing from a coalition of eleven of my fellow House colleagues, along with a bipartisan Senate companion bill introduced by Senator Chuck Grassley.

Obstacles to simply searching for publicly disclosed documents—whether intentional or unintentional—have seriously inhibited effective public scrutiny. No American citizen should have such a limited ability to verify that the men and women working in the federal government are doing so in a trustworthy, accountable manner. Although Congress has mandated the public availability of these documents, for the average American, locating these records is incredibly difficult. My bill's proposed database, managed by the Office of Government Ethics, would ensure these documents—that should be readily available to the public—are easily searchable. Simplifying access to these disclosures would improve transparency, hold government officials more accountable, and help shore up the diminished trust the American people have in our government agencies.

Publicly disclosed documents should never be hidden away and buried in a difficult-to-navigate government website. Considering this legislation at an upcoming markup would further demonstrate the committee's dedication to bringing accountability to our government agencies. Thank you again, Mr. Chairman, for hosting the Member Day Hearing. I strongly urge the

committee take up H.R. 3642 to help further the goal of House Republicans to bring greater accountability to our government agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas A. Langworthy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress