

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

February 26, 2019

To: Members of the Subcommittee on Government Operations

Fr: Majority Staff

Re: Hearing on “Effects of Vacancies at the Merit Systems Protection Board”

On Thursday, February 28, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Government Operations will hold a hearing on the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB).

I. HEARING PURPOSE

The hearing will examine: (1) the effects on the mission of the MSPB caused by vacancies since January 2017; (2) the independence of MSPB since its sole member was appointed by President Trump to serve concurrently as General Counsel of the Office of Personnel Management; and (3) the continuing operations of MSPB if it is left with no Members at the expiration of the remaining member’s extended term of office, in March 2019.

II. WITNESSES

Mark A. Robbins

Acting Chairman

Merit Systems Protection Board

Thomas M. Devine

Legal Director

Government Accountability Project

John M. Palguta

Former Director of Policy and Evaluation

Merit Systems Protection Board

Valerie Brannon
Legislative Attorney
American Law Division
Congressional Research Service

John York (minority witness)
Policy Analyst
Heritage Foundation

Staff contacts: Jaron Bourke, Kristine Lam, and Lena Chang at (202) 225-5051.