

TESTIMONY OF
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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
BEFORE
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS FINANCIAL SERVICES
& GENERAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

May 17, 2022

Chairman Quigley, Ranking Member Womack, Chair DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger, Members of the Subcommittee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today to present the President's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget request for the Office of Management and Budget. I would like to start by thanking members of this committee from both parties for their support of OMB's budget in the 2022 omnibus. These additional resources have allowed us to begin filling critical career staff vacancies, restoring OMB to its historic staffing levels, and investing in our outstanding workforce. For example, we have been able to fill longstanding key leadership vacancies, such as the Chief Statistician in OIRA, which was vacant for well over two years, and other critical staff-level positions across all offices – some of which were vacant for far longer, including examiner positions in OMB's Health Division Medicare Branch, and Social Security and human service programs positions in the Education, Income Maintenance, and Labor Division.

As you can see with our 2023 request, rebuilding our career staff remains a top priority for OMB. This is the second lowest our staffing level has been in 15 years – even as OMB continues to take on significant new areas of responsibility. We are implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, leading the Made in America agenda, transforming federal customer service delivery, answering the call on key issues like the war in Ukraine, and much more.

Our Fiscal Year 2023 request totals \$128 million – an increase of 10 percent over the Fiscal Year 2022 enacted level. These resources will allow OMB to continue our work rebuilding and maintaining our career staff. And that includes funding to maintain a robust student pathways intern program, which will help strengthen OMB's employee pipeline.

OMB is also requesting \$13.7 million for the Information and Technology Oversight and Reform Fund, or ITOR. OMB's Office of the Federal CIO would use these funds to reach 53 FTE – which is the number of personnel the office needs to do its work improving the Nation's cybersecurity.

I'd also like to say a few words about the President's overall Fiscal Year 2023 budget request.

Under the President's leadership, our country has made historic progress in the face of significant challenges. We've created 8.3 million new jobs. The unemployment rate has fallen to 3.6%. Last year saw the strongest economic growth in nearly 40 years. And we're on track to cut the deficit by more than \$1.5 trillion this year, based on the latest Treasury data.

The President's FY 2023 Budget details his vision to build on this progress. It expands our economic capacity, improves our public health infrastructure, combats the climate crisis, and advances equity, dignity, and security for all Americans. During what will be a decisive decade for the world, the Budget strengthens our military and leverages America's renewed strength at home so our nation is prepared to meet pressing global challenges and manage crises as they arise. And it makes these investments in a fiscally responsible way, reducing deficits by \$1 trillion over the coming decade.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee today, and I look forward to your questions.