

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

February 7, 2025

To: Members, Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency

From: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing titled “The War on Waste: Stamping Out the Scourge of Improper Payments and Fraud”

On Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. ET in 2247 Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency will host a hearing titled “The War on Waste: Stamping Out the Scourge of Improper Payments and Fraud.”

I. BACKGROUND:

The Government Accountability Office estimates that since 2003 the federal government has made approximately \$2.8 trillion in improper payments. \$2 trillion of this total is attributable to just five major programs. A lack of pre-payment controls is a key driver of improper payments, as are complex program delivery mechanisms that involve both the federal government and the states.

II. HEARING PURPOSE:

This hearing will seek to understand the cost of improper payments, how they are generated, and how they can be better combatted.

III. WITNESSES:

Haywood Talcove
Chief Executive Officer
LexisNexis Special Services Inc.

Stewart Whitson
Senior Director of Federal Affairs
Foundation for Government Accountability

Dawn Royal
Director
United Council on Welfare Fraud