Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6143

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https://oversight.house.gov

July 31, 2020

Mr. Steve O'Keeffe
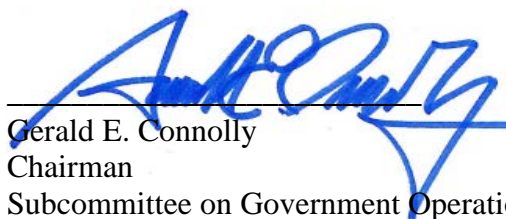Founder
MeriTalk
P.O. Box 1356
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Mr. O'Keeffe:

Enclosed are post-hearing questions that have been directed to you and submitted to the official record for the hearing that was held on Monday, July 20, 2020, titled "Federal IT Modernization: How the Coronavirus Exposed Outdated Systems."

In order to ensure a complete hearing record, please return your written response to the Committee on or before Friday, August 14, 2020, including each question in full as well as the name of the Member. Your response should be addressed to the Committee office at 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Please also send an electronic version of your response by email to Amy Stratton, Deputy Clerk, at Amy.Stratton@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Elisa LaNier, Chief Clerk, at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,

Gerald E. Connolly
Chairman
Subcommittee on Government Operations

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Jody B. Hice, Ranking Member

July 20, 2020, Hearing: "Federal IT Modernization: How the Coronavirus Exposed Outdated Systems"

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1. Did legacy IT systems pose challenges to some agency Chief Information Officers (CIOs) and employees when attempting to ensure a continuity of operations during the pandemic?

2. Do resource constraints continue to be a challenge for agency CIOs as they work to modernize legacy systems?

3. How can agencies capitalize on this momentum for IT modernization both during and after the pandemic?

4. How does a reliance on outdated legacy systems hurt recruitment for IT talent across the government?

5. What best practices in cybersecurity have you seen in the private sector that federal agencies might consider?

6. If the federal government appoints a cyber czar in the White House, how should Congress structure his or her responsibilities to promote appropriate levels of coordination with the federal CIO and Chief Technology Officer to ensure effective cybersecurity coordination across the government?

7. What specific aspects of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act do you find are in need of updating, and what are your recommendations for doing so?

8. In 2016, OMB issued a government wide directive for all 24 Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Act agencies to implement a comprehensive enterprise risk management program. While progress has been made, will codifying this requirement in statute ensure that future IT is managed to minimize risk and maximize benefits?