

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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March 11, 2019

Ms. Kathryn A. Larin
Director
Education, Workforce, and Income Security
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Ms. Larin:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at the hearing entitled “Examining the Failures of the Trump Administration’s Inhumane Family Separation Policy.” We appreciate the time and effort you gave as a witness before the Subcommittee.

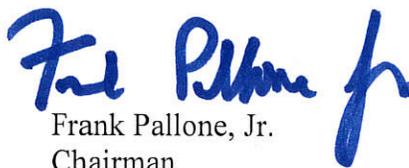
Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, members are permitted to submit additional questions to the witnesses for their responses, which will be included in the hearing record. Attached are questions directed to you from certain members of the Committee. In preparing your answers to these questions, please address your response to the member who has submitted the question and include the text of the member’s question along with your response. In the event you have been asked questions from more than one member of the Committee, please begin the responses to each member on a new page.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, your responses to these questions should be received no later than the close of business Monday, March 25, 2019. As previously noted, this transmittal letter and your response(s), as well as the responses from the other witnesses appearing at the hearing, will all be included in the hearing record. Your written responses should be emailed to Jourdan Lewis with the Committee staff at Jourdan.Lewis@mail.house.gov. Please provide your response in a Microsoft Word formatted document, as well as a PDF document.

Ms. Kathryn A. Larin
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Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Jourdan Lewis at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,


Frank Pallone, Jr.
Chairman

Attachment

cc: Hon. Greg Walden, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

Hon. Diana DeGette, Chair
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Hon. Brett Guthrie, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

The Honorable Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)

1. Ms. Kathryn Larin, in 2015 the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that the process to refer and transfer unaccompanied or separated children from Department of Homeland Security custody to Health and Human Services was inefficient and prone to errors, and it offered several recommendations to resolve these problems. In the most recent GAO report, it was found that these issues still have not been fully resolved, and there remains an utter lack of consistency in recording and tracking children that were separated from their parents.
 - a. What is causing such an extreme delay in maintaining an integrated data system to account for separated families across DHS and HHS?
 - b. When can we expect this problem to be fixed?