

**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**1324 Longworth House Office Building**  
**March 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**

Oversight Hearing

*Examining the Department of the Interior's Spending Priorities and the President's Fiscal Year  
2021 Budget Proposal*

**Questions from Rep. Aumua Amata Radewagen** for Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, U.S. Department of the Interior

1. Ms. Combs, what efforts is DOI taking, either on their own or in conjunction with the other agencies, to improve healthcare in the territories and protect us from health threats like the recent measles and Coronavirus outbreaks?
2. Considering the territories' limited resources and healthcare infrastructure, how do potential health threats factor into your budgeting decisions?
3. OIA has indicated that American Samoa has met two of three conditions to remove their designation as a high-risk grantee, but that the designation "will remain until ASG has developed and implemented sufficient internal controls for compliance with fiscal reforms". What exactly does this entail, and approximately how far along is the territory from meeting this requirement?
4. Part of OIA's justification for suggesting cuts to the ASG Operations Account is to "promote self-sufficiency" for the territory. What, in your estimation, is the largest obstacle to the self-sufficiency of American Samoa and the other territories, and how do you account for it when forming your budget?