

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

July 10, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Protect the U.S. Government Accountability Office

Dear Speaker Johnson and Chairman Cole:

We write to express deep concern regarding the proposed \$396.5 million cut to the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Legislative Branch Appropriations bill. This unprecedented reduction in funding – nearly 50 percent – would severely diminish GAO’s capacity to serve Congress, the federal government, and the American people.

There is strong support – from both lawmakers and the public – for making government more efficient, effective, and accountable – and reducing waste, fraud, and abuse. But these goals cannot be met by decimating the very agency that helps identify and address inefficiencies in government. The GAO is a trusted, nonpartisan watchdog, and the results speak for themselves. Since 2002, GAO’s oversight has resulted in \$1.45 trillion in financial benefits to the federal government, including \$67.5 billion just last year.¹

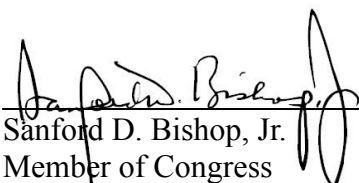
Cutting GAO’s budget in half would significantly weaken its ability to deliver future savings throughout the government. The proposed funding reduction would result in a loss of more than 2,200 expert staff,² hamstringing critical oversight work, eliminate technical assistance to Congress, and delay or cancel ongoing investigations. Congress should be investing more in GAO’s work – not less.

We cannot fight waste, fraud, and abuse by gutting the one agency most responsible for uncovering it. We all want to make government work better – and that requires ensuring the GAO has the resources it needs to continue its work for the American people. As such, we urge you to reverse these cuts to GAO, and work with Members of both parties to preserve full funding going forward.

Sincerely,



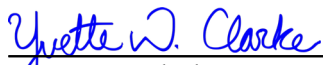
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



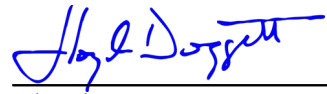
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

¹ <https://www.gao.gov/assets/880/873251.pdf>

² <https://punchbowl.news/article/senate/gop-eyes-medicaid-cut-delays>



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



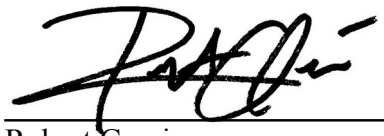
Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



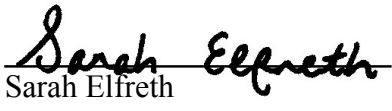
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



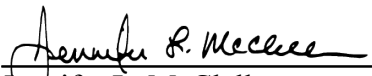
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



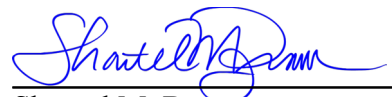
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



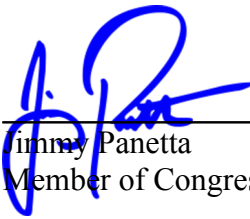
Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



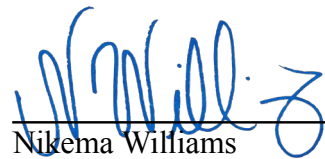
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



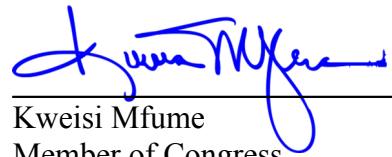
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



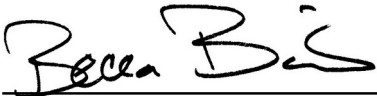
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



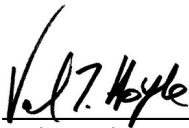
Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



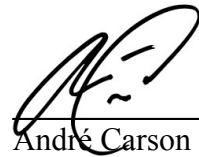
Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



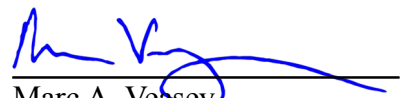
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress
Kansas Third District



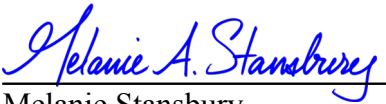
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



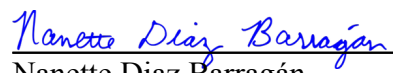
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



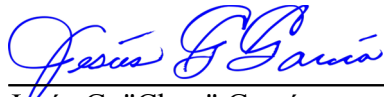
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



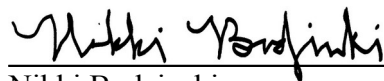
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



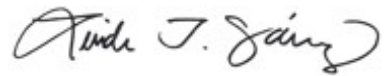
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



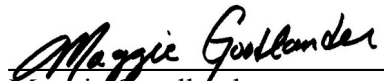
Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



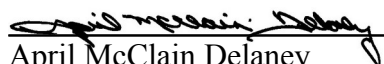
Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



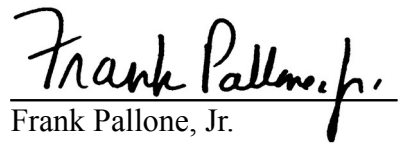
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress



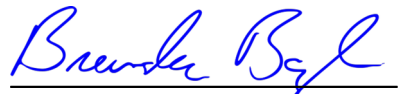
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



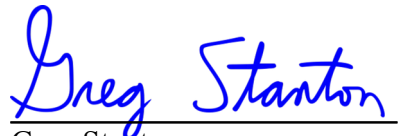
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



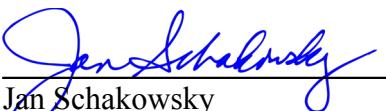
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



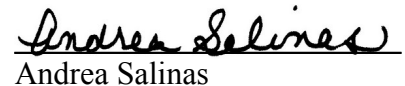
Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



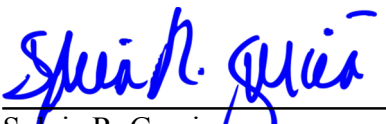
Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



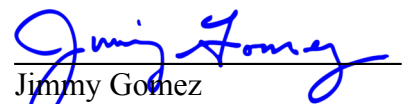
Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



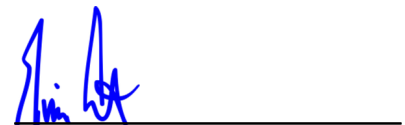
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



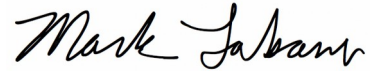
Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



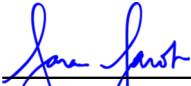
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



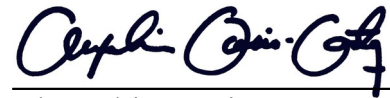
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



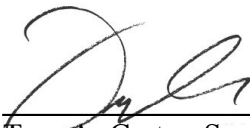
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



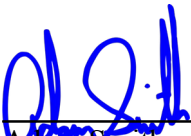
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



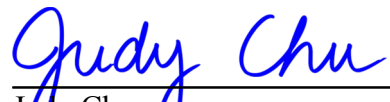
Froy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress

Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Nellie Pou
Member of Congress

Greg Casar
Member of Congress

LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

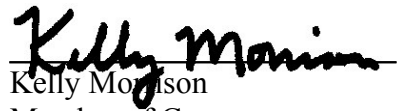
Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

Al Green
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. McBride', written over a horizontal line.

Sarah McBride
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelly Morrison', written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Salud Carbajal', written over a horizontal line.

Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress