I oppose this amendment.

This amendment would gut one of the fundamental changes the underlying bill would make, which is to strengthen the authority of the Office of Government Ethics.

Under the Trump Administration, we have seen one ethics scandal after another.

Former EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt rented a condo from a lobbyist and used his staff to find jobs for his wife and daughter.
Former Secretary of Health and Human Services

Tom Price flew on private planes at taxpayer expense.

Current Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross refused to divest one of his holdings that he committed to divest in his ethics agreement, and then falsely reported that he had, in fact, divested the holding.

OGE needs the authority to investigate in order to clean up the mess that has been created under this Administration.

We must learn from what has happened during the last two years and act to improve OGE’s
authority, rather than leaving it without the tools it needs to perform its mission.

I oppose this amendment and urge every Member who supports cleaning up unethical behavior in the executive branch to oppose it.