

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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<http://oversight.house.gov>

June 20, 2016

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro
Comptroller General of the United States
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro:

I write to request that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) update its 2012 report on the federal government's hiring practices of individuals with disabilities.¹

On July 26, 2010, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13548 to direct the federal government to hire 100,000 individuals with disabilities over the next five years. The Executive Order assigned oversight of implementation to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

In the 2012 report, GAO found that while OPM provided guidance to help agencies develop hiring plans and identified deficiencies in most agency plans, OPM could provide more information to the White House so that it could in turn better hold agencies accountable.² GAO also recommended that OPM expedite the development of the mandatory training programs required by the Executive Order and assess the accuracy of the data used to measure progress toward the Executive Order's goals.

To help inform the Committee about the continued implementation of this Executive Order, we request an updated study of the federal government's hiring practices of individuals with disabilities. Specifically, the Committee requests that GAO:

1. Examine agencies' efforts to implement the Executive Order and to adopt leading practices for hiring and retaining employees with disabilities;
2. Evaluate retention rates of employees with disabilities in the federal government, including participation of individuals with disabilities in internships, fellowships, and training and mentoring programs for Fiscal Years 2011-2015;

¹ U.S. Government Accountability Office, *GAO-12-568, Disability Employment: Further Action Needed to Oversee Efforts to Meet Federal Government Hiring Goals* (May 2012).

² *Id.*

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro

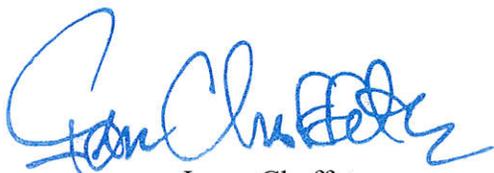
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3. Examine agencies' reasonable accommodation policies and procedures; and
4. Assess the continued efforts by OPM and DOL in overseeing the implementation of the Executive Order across the federal government.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Katie Bailey of the Majority staff at (202) 225-5074 or Lena Chang of the Minority staff at 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jason Chaffetz
Chairman



Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member