

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Testimony of Doug Pitkin

**Director of Bureau of Budget and Planning
before the**

**House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Subcommittees on Information Technology and Government Operations
United States House of Representatives
December 6, 2016**

Good Afternoon, Chairmen Hurd and Meadows, Ranking Members Kelly and Connolly, Members of the subcommittees, thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee to provide an update on the Department's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) implementation.

As the Director of the Bureau of Budget and Planning (BP), I coordinate the resource requests the Secretary presents to OMB and to Congress each year, and oversee the allocation of funds provided by Congress. Facilitating these processes ensures that the Bureau of Information Resource Management (IRM) is provided adequate funding to address FITARA requirements.

As reported on the IT Dashboard, the Department's FY 2017 IT budget request totaled \$1.8 billion. The centerpiece of our investments is the IT Central Fund, which provides nearly \$300 million for development of enterprise-level systems infrastructure. The remaining \$1.5 billion resides in other Department accounts to support enterprise-level and bureau IT operations and investments across the Department. BP and IRM continuously look for ways to improve coordination across the entire span of the Department's IT portfolio. The Department is committed to transparency and accountability in the management of all aspects of its IT budget. Close partnership between the CIO and IT project and program managers in all bureaus across the Department has greatly enhanced this effort.

Progress Since December 2015

I echo my colleague, Chief Information Officer Wiggins' sentiments on how FITARA implementation has improved IT management at the Department of State. I should emphasize that FITARA did not truly impose brand new budget processes on the Department. Rather, it codified existing IT management processes, and reinforced ongoing coordination efforts. For example, in formulating the FY 2017 budget request for the Electronic Health Records project, BP leveraged project

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performance and schedule information from the CIO's office to determine the appropriate funding source and dollar amount needed to support this project. This ongoing collaboration enables us to make better informed resource decisions, manage IT investment risk, and most importantly, deliver IT services and capabilities that support the Department's mission.

Including FITARA requirements in the fiscal guidance BP provides to all the bureaus of the Department regarding formulating their budget requests has led to the inclusion of more comprehensive documentation to support IT funding requests from the bureaus. This includes analysis of cost-effectiveness and long-range planning. BP works closely with the CIO's team to review IT funding allocations, especially with regard to major IT investments. The goal is to reduce duplication of efforts in the bureaus, share technology across the Department, and deliver the best value for the taxpayer dollar.

In support of this effort, BP is refining how we monitor IT spending today. BP is implementing a slightly modified commercial off the shelf product, referred to as Budget System Modernization (BSM) to track our IT assets and cost in the Financial Plan, Formulation, and Performance Metrics phases of the project lifecycles. Implementing BSM will improve the integration of IT portfolio management data and budget data, and promote an enterprise approach to information sharing, which will foster more informed management decision-making.

Closing

With Congress' continued support, and robust collaboration with our Federal and non-federal stakeholders, we are on path toward improved FITARA implementation. We look forward to working with Congress, to ensure our efforts not only meet FITARA requirements but also reflect our collective desire to transform how State does its work.

Thank you for your time. I am happy to take any questions you may have.

Douglas Pitkin



Director, Bureau of Budget and Planning

Term of Appointment: 06/2015 to present

Douglas Pitkin is the Director of the Department of State's Bureau of Budget & Planning (BP), which is responsible for developing the \$25 billion diplomatic engagement budget, overseeing strategic planning and performance management of those resources, as well as funds control of all Department resources. He has served in that position since June 2015.

Mr. Pitkin was previously BP's Deputy Director for seven years, and served as BP's Director for Program Accounts from 2007 to 2008. He joined the State Department in 2006 as the Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Director of the Iraq Transition Assistance Office at U.S. Embassy Baghdad.

Prior to joining the Department, Mr. Pitkin was a budget examiner with the Office of Management and Budget from 1997 through 2006. Over that time, he covered a diverse range of portfolios, including the Commerce Department, Justice Department, and Department of Homeland Security. While with OMB, Mr. Pitkin was detailed to the Coalition Provisional Authority's Washington office from January to June 2004. Prior to joining the government, he held a variety of positions in publishing.

Mr. Pitkin has lived in Washington, DC since 1989. He received his B.A. in Latin American Studies from Tulane University in 1989, and a Masters of Public Policy from Georgetown University in 1997.