

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074  
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<https://oversight.house.gov>

June 21, 2023

Mr. Brian Conrad  
Acting Director and Program Manager for Cybersecurity  
FedRAMP  
1800 F St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Acting Director Conrad:

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is conducting oversight of the July 2019 FedRAMP authorization of Login.gov. A recent report by the General Services Administration (GSA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) found that, starting in 2018, certain representatives of GSA—which developed and maintains Login.gov—knowingly misled agencies about the platform’s compliance with certain security standards.<sup>1</sup> We request documents and communications, as well as a staff-level briefing, to understand what representations were made by GSA to obtain FedRAMP authorization of Login.gov.

Specifically, the GSA OIG report found that GSA stated in the Login.gov FedRAMP Agency Authorization to Operate that the service “can support user validation at Identity Assurance Level 1 or 2 (IAL1 or IAL2).”<sup>2</sup> However, Login.gov has never met the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standard for IAL2.<sup>3</sup>

Login.gov is currently authorized at the FedRAMP moderate level, which is reserved for service providers where “the loss of confidentiality, integrity, and availability would result in serious adverse effect on an agency’s operations, assets, or individuals.”<sup>4</sup> It is important to understand the extent to which representatives of GSA made misleading statements about Login.gov during the FedRAMP authorization process. It is also important to learn if the FedRAMP program office knew that Login.gov was not compliant with NIST security standards at the time of authorization or at any time since authorization. Accordingly, the Committee requests a staff-level briefing, as soon as possible but no later than July 10, 2023, to understand:

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. GEN. SERV. ADMIN., JE23-003, *GSA Misled Customers on Login.gov’s Compliance with Digital Identity Standards* (Mar. 7, 2023).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> .FED RAMP BASELINES, <https://www.fedramp.gov/baselines/> (last visited May 8, 2023).

Acting Director Conrad

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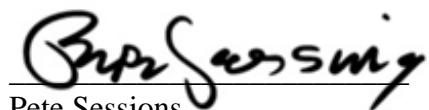
1. Whether the FedRAMP program office or the Joint Authorization Board knew about Login.gov's non-compliance with the NIST IAL2 standard prior to the GSA OIG report;
2. If the FedRAMP program office or Joint Authorization Board was unaware that Login.gov was not IAL2 compliant, why the noncompliance was not discovered during the authorization process;
3. Whether the FedRAMP program office or the Joint Authorization Board reconsidered or intend to reconsider Login.gov's FedRAMP authorization after learning that Login.gov does not meet NIST's IAL2 standard;
4. How influential NIST compliance is on the FedRAMP program office's and the Joint Authorization Board's consideration of FedRAMP authorization, generally; and
5. The factors considered by the FedRAMP program office and the Joint Authorization Board when deciding to provide Login.gov with a FedRAMP moderate authorization.

In addition, please provide all documents shared between the FedRAMP program office and Login.gov, GSA's Technology Transformation Services, or GSA's Federal Acquisition Service regarding FedRAMP authorization for Login.gov. In addition, please provide any communications between the FedRAMP program office and Login.gov, GSA's Technology Transformation Services, or GSA's Federal Acquisition Service that include content or references to NIST standards, identity proofing, or IAL2-level-services and FedRAMP authorization for Login.gov. Please arrange to deliver these documents no later than July 6, 2023.

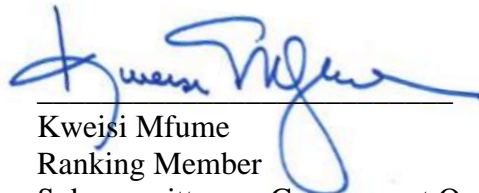
To schedule the briefing, arrange for the delivery of responsive documents or ask any related follow-up questions, please contact Committee on Oversight and Accountability Majority Staff at (202) 225-5074. Attached are instructions for producing the documents and information to the Committee.

The Committee on Oversight and Accountability is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this inquiry.

Sincerely,



Pete Sessions  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Government Operations  
and the Federal Workforce



Kweisi Mfume  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Government Operations  
and the Federal Workforce