

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 10, 2025

The Honorable Scott Bessent  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Bessent:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on House Administration are investigating reports of potentially fraudulent and illicit financial activity related to contributions to campaigns of candidates for federal offices facilitated by online fundraising platforms like ActBlue. During the 118th Congress, each Committee wrote to the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) requesting certain Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) relevant to the Committees' investigations.<sup>1</sup> Although the Biden Administration initially stalled the Committees' requests in its entirety for months, on January 2, 2025, Treasury allowed the Committees to review only limited documents. We write to request Treasury, in its commitment to transparency and cooperation, provide both Committees with the remaining records relevant to our investigations.

The Committees remain concerned with recent reports suggesting fraud and evasion of campaign finance law by individuals exploiting online contribution platforms, especially ActBlue. Until recently, ActBlue had not implemented standard procedures to guard against identity theft and fraud, such as by requiring a Card Verification Value (CVV) to process online transactions.<sup>2</sup> The organization is also the subject of several state-level investigations stemming from allegedly fraudulent contributions made via the platform without the reported contributors' awareness<sup>3</sup>—serious allegations that, if proven true, would violate federal law.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from James Comer, Chairman, H. Comm. on Oversight and Accountability, *et al.*, to Janet Yellen, Sec'y, U.S. Dep't of the Treasury (Sep. 20, 2024); Letter from Bryan Steil, Chairman, Comm. on House Administration, *et al.*, to Janet Yellen, Sec'y, U.S. Dep't of the Treasury (Oct. 17, 2024).

<sup>2</sup> See Charlotte Hazard, *Texas AG Paxton's investigation leads ActBlue to require CVV codes when people make donations*, JUSTTHENEWS (Aug. 9, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> Press Release, Attorney General of Texas, *Attorney General Ken Paxton's Ongoing Investigation Into ActBlue Yields Cooperation On Donor Credit Card Identification* (Aug. 8, 2024); Letter from Jason Miyares, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia to ActBlue (Aug. 2, 2024); Jeff Victor, *Secretary of State investigating ActBlue Wyoming based on national allegations*, WYOMING PUBLIC RADIO (Aug. 19, 2024).

<sup>4</sup> 52 U.S.C. § 30122 ("No person shall make a contribution in the name of another person or knowingly permit his name to be used to effect such a contribution, and no person shall knowingly accept a contribution made by one person in the name of another person.").

Accordingly, our Committees are concerned that the failure to properly vet contributions made through online platforms may allow bad actors, including foreign nationals not lawfully admitted for permanent residence or individuals attempting to evade individual contribution limits,<sup>5</sup> to more easily commit fraud to illegally exploit and violate federal campaign finance laws.

As Secretary, you are authorized to provide information obtained through SARs to congressional committees upon written request.<sup>6</sup> It is crucial to the Committees' investigations that we review all responsive documents in a timely manner to determine whether legislation is needed to ensure adherence to applicable campaign finance laws and guard against illicit foreign influence or other illegal activities in U.S. elections.

To assist the Committees' investigations in this matter, we request access to the following information as soon as possible:

1. All SARs filed or relating to transactions occurring on or after January 1, 2023, to the present, containing the term "ActBlue", which relate to money laundering, counterfeit credit/debit card, credit card or debit card fraud, false statements, wire transfer fraud, or identity theft.

The Committees look forward to engaging you in furthering this important work. To ask any follow-up questions, please contact Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Majority staff at (202) 225-5074 and Committee on House Administration Majority staff at (202) 225-8281.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee in the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. The Committee on House Administration exercises legislative and oversight jurisdiction over federal elections.

Thank you for your attention to this important request.

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<sup>5</sup> See 52 U.S.C. § 30116 (setting forth limitations on contributions and expenditures); see also Federal Election Commission, *Contribution limits*, available at <https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/candidate-taking-receipts/contribution-limits/>.

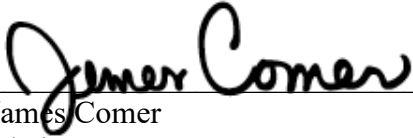
<sup>6</sup> 31 C.F.R. § 1010.950(c) ("The Secretary may make any information set forth in any report received pursuant to this chapter available to the Congress, or any committee or subcommittee thereof, upon a written request stating the particular information desired, the criminal, tax or regulatory purpose for which the information is sought, and the official need for the information.").

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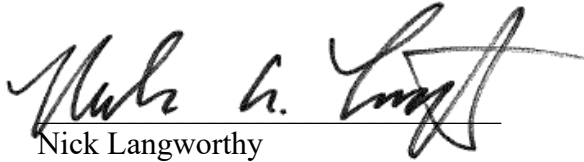
Sincerely,



James Comer  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform



Bryan Steil  
Chairman  
Committee on House Administration



Nick Langworthy  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Gerald Connolly, Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Joe Morelle, Ranking Member  
Committee on House Administration