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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

September 26, 2025

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Director Vought,

On October 1, 2025, fiscal year 2025 appropriations will lapse. With the threat of a possible government shutdown looming, it is critical that Congress and the public are aware of how the Administration will comply with the law while continuing to carry out critical national security functions and providing essential services in the event of a shutdown.

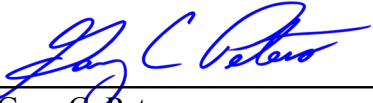
As you know, federal agencies draft agency contingency plans to prepare for government shutdowns. This year, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) instructed agencies to update these plans and submit them to OMB by August 1, 2025. Historically, OMB has made these plans publicly available, including during the first Trump Administration. My staff has requested copies of these plans multiple times and has been rebuffed. Each agency should have a publicly available finalized contingency plan approved by OMB, as we are just days away from a possible shutdown. By hiding these plans, OMB is leaving Americans in the dark about how the federal government will operate during a government shutdown.

On September 24, 2025, OMB urged federal agencies to take the unprecedented step of preparing new Reduction in Force plans to conduct mass firings of nonpartisan civil servants who work on programs that do not align with the President's priorities, should a lapse in appropriations occur. This outrageous plan threatens to cause lasting damage to the country and the safety of the American people by mass firing nonpartisan, expert civil servants and potentially even eliminating government agencies. Rather than negotiating with congressional Democrats, OMB is preparing to weaponize a government shutdown.

Please provide a complete copy of each agency contingency plan that OMB has approved this year. Additionally, please provide a copy of each agency's Reduction in Force plan submitted pursuant to the September 24 OMB email.

I request that you provide this information as soon as possible, and on a rolling basis as needed, but no later than September 29, 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary C. Peters", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Gary C. Peters

United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs