

HSGAC Hearing:

Considering the Nominations of the Honorable Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security and the Honorable Dan Bishop to be Deputy Secretary, Office of Management and Budget.

February 25th, 2025

Opening Statement as delivered

For far too long, federal spending has increased unchecked, amassing over \$36 trillion in debt that our children and grandchildren will one day inherit. Here in Washington, the default mindset seems to be “just write another check,” as though each new dollar of debt somehow doesn’t matter.

In the last four years, we have added nearly \$6 billion a day or \$241 million per hour to our national deficit for a running total of \$8.5 trillion over the last four years. The unchecked and reckless spending spree in Washington over the last four years has put every American family on the hook for another \$67,000 of debt.

Yet despite this unprecedented level of spending, agencies continue to ask for more—more funding, more authority, more staff—while doing less and less for Americans. Unsurprisingly, Americans across the country have taken notice and voted for a change in the status quo.

One month ago, President Trump, behind the wheel with a clear mandate by the American people to steer this country in a different direction—and he hasn’t let off the gas since.

The Trump Administration, along with the new Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), has been hard at work identifying waste, fraud, and duplicative or outdated programs. Their efforts have revealed just how many billions of taxpayer dollars are slipping through the

cracks— and they’re moving fast to identify flagrant waste, fraud, and abuse across the federal bureaucracy. That’s good news. The bad news is that unearthing waste is only half the battle—real reform will require a complete disruption of how Washington operates including Congress, and ultimately an affirmation of the savings by congressional vote.

Accountability cannot be outsourced. Real, lasting change demands leaders who aren’t afraid to push back against business as usual, leaders who will stand up and say, “We can’t spend our way out of every problem.”

Which brings us to the two nominees appearing before us today.

First, we have Mr. Troy Edgar, who has been nominated to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. If confirmed, Mr. Edgar will take on the role of Deputy Secretary, serving as the Department’s chief operating officer.

DHS is a massive agency, employing nearly 260,000 people across more than 20 components. Having previously served as DHS’s Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Edgar has firsthand knowledge of where the Department can make cuts and streamline operations.

Second, we have Representative Dan Bishop, nominated to be Deputy Director of OMB. OMB is supposed to be the bulwark against overspending. We rely on OMB to carefully scrutinize agencies’ budgets and identify redundancies. It is OMB’s job to ensure that federal agencies are not rubber-stamping costly new programs subsidized by the American taxpayers.

If confirmed, Representative Bishop will have a front-row seat to the entire federal budget process and a chance to say “no” when agencies

continue to demand endless expansions in authority and unchecked spending.

Both of these nominees have come forward at a time when Americans are fed up with government overreach and runaway debt.

So, Mr. Edgar and Representative Bishop, we appreciate your willingness to serve and the experiences you bring to the table. If confirmed, you will each wield influence that can truly shape how this government operates—and how it spends the public's money.

The American people deserve an honest, efficient government that respects their hard-earned dollars. Thank you for joining us this morning to share how you plan to meet these responsibilities.