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United States Senate

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

MICHAEL L. ALEXANDER, STAFF DIRECTOR
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June 9, 2010

Dr. Francis S. Collins
Director, National Institutes of Health
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Dear Dr. Collins:

We are writing to invite you or your designee to testify before the Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight at a hearing entitled, "Interagency Contracts (Part II): Management and Oversight." The hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 30, 2010 at 2:30 P.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. This hearing will be the Subcommittee's second hearing on interagency contracting.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine the management and oversight of interagency contracts. The hearing will review the reasons behind the rapid proliferation of interagency contracting vehicles in recent years. The hearing will also explore whether agencies are creating and using these vehicles responsibly. In addition, the hearing will assess the need for increased transparency, oversight, and other potential reforms.

Your testimony should address the plans of the National Institutes of Health to ensure that interagency contracting is as competitive, efficient, and transparent as possible. In particular, you should address the recent Government Accountability Office report entitled, *Contracting Strategies: Data and Oversight Problems Hamper Opportunities to Leverage Value of Interagency and Enterprisewide Contracts*. You should also discuss the potential benefits and shortcomings of interagency contracting for the federal government, taxpayers, and small and large businesses.

The Subcommittee requests that you summarize your testimony in 5 minutes, although a longer written statement may be submitted for the official record. This will allow adequate time for you to engage in questions and answers with members of the Subcommittee. **Subcommittee rules require that your testimony be submitted by no later than 2:30 P.M. on Monday, June 28, 2010.** Please send an electronic copy of your written statement and a brief one page biography to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

We look forward to your participation. Please contact Margaret Daum with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-8316 or William Wright with Senator Brown's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-2186 with any questions.



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight

Sincerely,



Scott Brown
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight