

**Senator Rob Portman
February 2, 2022, 10:00AM
HSGAC Nomination Hearing:
OMB Director Shalanda Young,
OMB Deputy Director Nani Coloretti
Opening Statement – As Prepared**

Thank you, Chairman Peters. Ms. Young, Ms. Coloretti, I want to welcome you to our committee and say that I appreciate your willingness to serve in these critical roles.

As a former OMB Director, I know how critical this agency is to our government's success, particularly as we confront several ongoing national crises. As nominees for Director and Deputy Director, respectively, it is critical that you both have an appreciation and understanding of the large number of policy issues, regulations, and actions that OMB reviews and coordinates across agencies. Even more important is the ability and willingness to work effectively both within the administration and with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. And, in particular, this Committee.

Congress and the Administration must come together to find a path forward for Americans through multiple ongoing national crises. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every aspect of our lives, from a

growing opioid and mental health crisis, to job loss and economic insecurity, to major setbacks in our children's education and development, and significant inflationary pressures that are degrading everyday American's spending power. We are also seeing a continued increase in overdose deaths and a massive amount of fraud in the programs we have set up to help people.

Additionally, OMB faces ongoing challenges of continuing resolutions and the inability of Congress to pass a yearlong budget. With the next CR deadline looming just a few weeks away I believe this issue to be a critical one for OMB, the Biden Administration more broadly, and Congress to tackle. I hope to hear from both of you regarding your expectations and experiences in developing an annual budget moving forward.

Ms. Young, I appreciate the conversations we have had over the course of the last year since you last appeared before this committee. You have taken on much as both the Deputy Director and Acting Director of OMB simultaneously. I look forward to our continued conversations if you are confirmed as the Director.

Ms. Coloretti, I look forward to talking with you today regarding your qualifications for the Deputy Director position. I am interested to hear how your time as the Deputy Secretary of HUD and as Assistant Secretary for Management at the Department of the Treasury have prepared you to tackle the challenges that OMB faces.

I am hopeful that we can work together to address these challenges, rebuild America's economy, and get folks safely back to work and our kids back to school. If confirmed, the two of you will play an important part of that effort. Ms. Young, Ms. Coloretti, I look forward to hearing your thoughts today on these important issues and the critical role that OMB plays in them.