

Hearing before the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Mr. Jason Miller

Nominee to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget

March 4, 2021

Chairman Peters, Ranking Member Portman, and Members of the Committee —

Thank you for your service and for the opportunity to be here today in front of you.

I am humbled to be President Biden's nominee for the Deputy Director of Management for the Office of Management and Budget. Serving the American people is a privilege. Having the opportunity to serve in a role with such broad responsibilities to ensure our federal government is delivering every single day for the American people would be an honor.

I am accompanied today by my wife, Katy Platt Miller; undoubtedly, I would not be here without her support and wisdom. And I want to thank her and my family for their willingness to allow me to serve, and the sacrifices that they are willing to make if I am confirmed.

I also want to thank my parents – Peggy and David Miller – who taught me the importance of integrity, hard work, and kindness. And my three children that could not be here today – Annabelle, Theo, and Cora – who always keep me on my toes.

Public service is my way to give back to a country that has given me and my family so much. My grandfather – after whom I am named – left Eastern Europe in 1913, escaping anti-Semitism and all that came with it, for a better life, settling with his parents and seven siblings in Flint, Michigan. My other grandfather served our country in WWII, a Jew put in charge of the care of German prisoners of war; upon returning, through the GI Bill, he completed college, going into business in Chicago and starting a family with my grandmother. Today would have been my grandmother's 92nd birthday; she passed in December and I carry her love and fondness for good food with me today. These are American stories – creating a better life and a better world for our children – something that each of us should have the opportunity to pursue.

The challenges we face today as a country are substantial. It is in times like these when Americans expect their government to deliver – to beat back the pandemic, to provide critical relief, to create the conditions for recovery, to protect our security, and to position our country to lead.

The Office of Management and Budget sits at the heart of the Executive Branch, responsible for ensuring federal agencies are doing just that, delivering on the President's priorities and the laws enacted by the Congress.

In my experience, successful delivery is built on three pillars – ambitious goals built around clear priorities, a system for measurement and accountability, and a talented and dedicated team.

The role of the Deputy Director for Management is to ensure those pillars are in place, that the support functions to enable agency missions are up to the task, that we are building a high-performance government, and that we have the very best of the American people serving their fellow citizens.

In my prior time in federal government, I had the opportunity to work closely with the talented career staff at OMB, and if confirmed, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to do so again. Our committed federal workers are an asset to our country, and addressing our challenges will require strengthening and energizing our federal workforce and inspiring even more Americans to serve.

I began my career in management consulting, working with large corporations to build smart strategies, create organizations to deliver on those strategies, and put in place the measures to ensure strong performance. I spent nearly seven years in public service at the White House, tackling a wide range of economic policy issues at the highest levels of government. Since then, I led an organization, which I built from the ground up, working on the most challenging economic issues at the state and local levels here in this region.

The common thread across those experiences – in the private, public and non-profit sectors - is that I get stuff done. It is what drives me. It is what I believe is needed right now. And, if confirmed, I would be honored to wake up every day and get stuff done for the American people.

Thank you for inviting me before this Committee, and I look forward to your questions.