

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
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<https://oversight.house.gov>

September 10, 2026

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor
State of Florida
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Governor DeSantis,

We are alarmed by recent reports suggesting you leveraged your official position to route \$10 million from a Medicaid fraud settlement to a charitable organization run by your wife, Casey DeSantis. A Florida grand jury found that the DeSantis Administration “misappropriated” the funds but failed to file criminal charges.¹ We are deeply concerned that funds meant to help children receive healthcare may have been diverted to defeat a ballot initiative you opposed. The role of the Hope Florida Foundation, a nonprofit connected to and tasked with overseeing money for initiatives led by your wife, Casey DeSantis, is particularly alarming.² The Trump Administration has used fraud investigations as a pretext for denying millions of dollars in federal healthcare funds to states run by Democratic governors yet has done nothing to hold your administration accountable for fraud. We are deeply concerned about waste, fraud and abuse of healthcare dollars as the cost of care increases for Florida families.³

In 2024, the Hope Florida Foundation received \$10 million from a \$67 million settlement between the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration and the Centene Corporation, a contractor for Florida’s Medicaid program that admitted to overbilling Florida taxpayers.⁴

¹ *Florida Grand Jury Finds DeSantis Administration Misused \$10 Million, But No Charges Have Been Filed*, PBS News (Aug. 31, 2026) (online at www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/florida-grand-jury-finds-desantis-administration-misused-10-million-but-no-charges-have-been-filed).

² *Grand Jury Finds DeSantis Administration “Misappropriated” \$10 Million in Taxpayer Money to Hope Florida*, CBS News (Aug. 26, 2026) (online at www.cbsnews.com/miami/news/grand-jury-report-hope-florida/); *Florida Grand Jury Finds DeSantis Administration Misused \$10 Million, But No Charges Have Been Filed*, PBS News (Aug. 31, 2026) (online at www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/florida-grand-jury-finds-desantis-administration-misused-10-million-but-no-charges-have-been-filed).

³ *Trump Administration Freezes Social Services Funding to 5 Democratic States*, The Hill (Jan. 7, 2026) (online at <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/5676711-welfare-democratic-social-services-funding-freeze>); *Health Dept. Freezes \$10 Billion in Funding to 5 Democratic States*, New York Times (Jan. 6, 2026) (online at www.nytimes.com/2026/01/06/us/politics/child-care-funding-cuts-trump.html).

⁴ *Leaked Hope Florida Grand Jury Report Says State “Misappropriated” Funds*, NBC Miami (Aug. 27, 2026) (online at www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/leaked-hope-florida-grand-jury-report-says-state-misappropriated-

Instead of routing the funds to services that would make Floridians healthier, the grand jury found that the money was then diverted to a political campaign to keep marijuana illegal in Florida.⁵

The Florida grand jury found that the fund diversion constitutes a misuse of public funds and is “part of a sophisticated scheme to fund political activities.”⁶ The grand jury also found that James Uthmeier, your former Chief of Staff and current Florida Attorney General, was involved in directing the flow of funds after they reached the Hope Florida Foundation. James Uthmeier’s own political action committee received the majority of the \$10 million.⁷

We are strongly opposed to all forms of public corruption and are investigating whether you or anyone else in your administration improperly instructed the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration to divert \$10 million towards political campaigns and away from people in need. We request that you preserve all documents, communications, and any other materials in your possession relevant to this investigation. To help aid us in our investigation, we request the following information by September 24, 2026:

1. The name and position of the individual who ordered the diversion of \$10 million from the Centene settlement to the Hope Florida Foundation;
2. A detailed explanation of why James Uthmeier was allowed to oversee funds held by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration or funds held by the Hope Florida Foundation;
3. The legal authority that allows the Governor’s Chief of Staff to route public, taxpayer funds to a political action committee intended to influence elections;
4. The names and positions of any Florida state employees who made the decision to divert \$10 million from the Centene settlement to the Hope Florida Foundation;
5. All documents and communications relating to the Centene settlement and the Hope Florida Foundation between January 1, 2024, and present.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Oversight Committee) is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

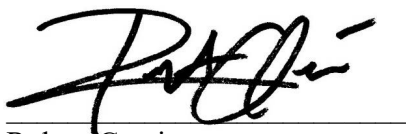
funds/3851311/).

⁵ *Florida Grand Jury Finds DeSantis Administration Misused \$10 Million, But No Charges Have Been Filed*, PBS News (Aug. 31, 2026) (online at www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/florida-grand-jury-finds-desantis-administration-misused-10-million-but-no-charges-have-been-filed).

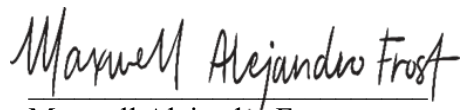
⁶ *Grand Jury Finds DeSantis Administration "Misappropriated" \$10 Million In Taxpayer Money to Hope Florida*, CBS News (Aug. 26, 2026) (online at www.cbsnews.com/miami/news/grand-jury-report-hope-florida/).

⁷ *Id.*

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Garcia', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Maxwell Alejandro Frost', written over a horizontal line.

Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Economic Growth,
Energy Policy, and Regulatory
Affairs

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman

The Honorable Eric Burlison, Chairman
Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs