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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
FACSIMILE (202) 225-3974
MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<http://oversight.house.gov>

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LAWRENCE J. BRADY
STAFF DIRECTOR

November 7, 2013

Mr. Todd Park
U.S. Chief Technology Officer
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
725 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Park:

Yesterday, I received a letter from the Office of Science and Technology Policy communicating your refusal to testify at the Committee's November 13, 2013, hearing on the development and rollout of the HealthCare.gov website. While the Committee understands that you are playing a role in the effort to improve the website, Congress has a constitutionally-mandated duty to conduct oversight of the Executive Branch. This Committee's responsibility is to identify waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, and to ensure that departments and agencies are spending taxpayer dollars wisely. The Committee's upcoming hearing is crucial in understanding both what went wrong with HealthCare.gov and what lessons can be learned going forward.

Your role in the development and rollout of HealthCare.gov, both before and after the October 1, 2013, launch, uniquely positions you to provide testimony that will be valuable for both Congress and the public. According to Henry Chao, Deputy Chief Information Officer at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, you were a central leader in the development of HealthCare.gov since Obamacare became law in March 2010.¹ Thus, your participation at the hearing is imperative.

Therefore, I am writing to request that you reconsider your refusal to testify. Please confirm your participation at the hearing as soon as possible, but by no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 8, 2013. If you continue to refuse to testify at the Committee's November 13, 2013, hearing, the Committee will be forced to consider the use of compulsory process to require your attendance.

¹ Transcribed Interview of Henry Chao (Nov. 1, 2013).

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If you have any questions about this request, please contact Brian Blase or Rich Beutel of the Committee Staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darrell Issa", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Darrell Issa
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Ranking Minority Member