

DARRELL E. ISSA, CALIFORNIA
CHAIRMAN

JOHN L. MICA, FLORIDA
MICHAEL R. TURNER, OHIO
JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR., TENNESSEE
PATRICK T. McHENRY, NORTH CAROLINA
JIM JORDAN, OHIO
JASON CHAFFETZ, UTAH
TIM WALBERG, MICHIGAN
JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA
JUSTIN AMASH, MICHIGAN
PAUL A. GOSAR, ARIZONA
PATRICK MEEHAN, PENNSYLVANIA
SCOTT DESJARLAIS, TENNESSEE
TREY GOWDY, SOUTH CAROLINA
BLAKE FARENTHOLD, TEXAS
DOC HASTINGS, WASHINGTON
CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS, WYOMING
ROB WOODALL, GEORGIA
THOMAS MASSIE, KENTUCKY
DOUG COLLINS, GEORGIA
MARK MEADOWS, NORTH CAROLINA
KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO, MICHIGAN
RON DESANTIS, FLORIDA

ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

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>

ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

CAROLYN B. MALONEY, NEW YORK
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON,
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
WM. LACY CLAY, MISSOURI
STEPHEN F. LYNCH, MASSACHUSETTS
JIM COOPER, TENNESSEE
GERALD E. CONNOLLY, VIRGINIA
JACKIE SPEIER, CALIFORNIA
MATTHEW A. CARTWRIGHT, PENNSYLVANIA
MARK POCAN, WISCONSIN
L. TAMMY DUCKWORTH, ILLINOIS
ROBIN L. KELLY, ILLINOIS
DANNY K. DAVIS, ILLINOIS
PETER WELCH, VERMONT
TONY CARDENAS, CALIFORNIA
STEVEN A. HORSFORD, NEVADA
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, NEW MEXICO

LAWRENCE J. BRADY
STAFF DIRECTOR

November 8, 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:

I was disappointed to receive a letter from the Office of Science and Technology Policy this afternoon communicating your continued refusal to testify at the Committee's November 13, 2013 hearing on the development and rollout of the HealthCare.gov website. Your unwillingness to appear before the Committee continues an unfortunate pattern of the current Administration when it comes to matters of transparency and Congressional oversight.

As you know, I first asked for you to brief the Committee in an October 21, 2013 letter. Nine days later, on October 30, 2013, the White House responded on your behalf that you were too busy working to help fix the failed website to speak with the Committee. Because of your long history of involvement in the development and rollout of HealthCare.gov, I invited you to participate in next week's hearing before the Committee along with other key Administration technology officials, including senior White House, Health and Human Services, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services officials. You are the only invited witness who remains unwilling to appear voluntarily.

While the letter I received on your behalf this afternoon states that you are working full time on a fix to the failed website, I note that since the October 1 launch, you have found time to talk with media outlets about the site's failure. For example, you are quoted in an October 7, 2013 *New York Times* article as stating that, to fix the website, "Right now ... we've got what we think we need. The contractors have sent reinforcements. They are working 24-7. We just wish there was more time in a day."¹

Millions of Americans have lost their health insurance and are rapidly approaching a point where they must begin to prepare for the possibility of having no health insurance on

¹ Michael D. Shear & Robert Pear, *Health Exchange Delays Tied to Software Crash in Early Rush*, N.Y. TIMES, Oct. 7, 2013, available at http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/08/us/health-exchange-delays-tied-to-software-crash-in-early-rush.html?pagewanted=all&_r=2&.

January 1, 2014. They deserve your sworn testimony before their elected representatives about what went wrong – not simply the media outlets that White House officials have deemed an appropriate use of your time away from working on the website project. Reliable testimony about the status of efforts to address problems with HealthCare.gov is highly relevant to ongoing concerns about security vulnerabilities, as well as legislative proposals Congress is currently considering that would allow Americans to keep individual insurance plans cancelled because of Obamacare regulations.

Given your continue unwillingness to appear voluntarily next week, I am left with no choice but to compel your appearance. Please find attached to this letter a subpoena for your testimony before the Committee next Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Chairman

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