

From: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
To: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Subject: FW: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 5:02:00 PM

From: Brandon A. Steele
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 4:57 PM
To: Matthew A. Marinec
Subject: FW: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

From: Cohen, Brian (Warren) [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 4:56 PM
To: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer); Brandon A. Steele
Subject: RE: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

Thanks Brandon. Also confirming receipt.

BC

From: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer)
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 4:52 PM
To: Brandon A. Steele <basteel@oge.gov>
Cc: Cohen, Brian (Warren) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

Thank you Brandon! Confirming receipt.

From: Brandon A. Steele [<mailto:basteel@oge.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 4:42 PM
To: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer) (b) (6)
Cc: Cohen, Brian (Warren) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

Dear Rebecca Kelly Slaughter:

Attached, please find the response from the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) to Minority Leader Schumer's January 5, 2017, letter to OGE. As a courtesy, we have also attached the original letter for reference.

Best regards,

Brandon A. Steele
Attorney Advisor
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave NW
Suite #500
Washington, D.C. 20005
Ph: 202-482-9209
bastele@oge.gov

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics



From: Cohen, Brian (Warren) [[\(b\) \(6\)](mailto:(b) (6))]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Walter M. Shaub; Shelley K. Finlayson
Cc: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer)
Subject: FW: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

This time with the correct email for Mr. Shaub

From: Cohen, Brian (Warren)
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 6:57 PM
To: 'walter.schaub@oge.gov' <walter.schaub@oge.gov>; 'skfinlay@oge.gov' <skfinlay@oge.gov>
Cc: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer) (b) (6)
Subject: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

Good evening – attached you will find a letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren with questions about the OGE review process for President-Elect Trump’s Cabinet nominees. Please let Rebecca or me know if you have any questions. We look forward to your timely response.

Brian

Brian A. Cohen

Oversight and Investigations Director
Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)

(b) (6)



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RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY
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MARK KIRK, ILLINOIS
TIM SCOTT, SOUTH CAROLINA
ORRIN HATCH, UTAH
PAT ROBERTS, KANSAS
BILL CASSIDY, M.D., LOUISIANA

PATTY MURRAY, WASHINGTON
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI, MARYLAND
BERNARD SANDERS III, VERMONT
ROBERT P. CASEY, JR., PENNSYLVANIA
AL FRANKEN, MINNESOTA
MICHAEL F. BENNETT, COLORADO
SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, RHODE ISLAND
TAMMY BALDWIN, WISCONSIN
CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY, CONNECTICUT
ELIZABETH WARREN, MASSACHUSETTS

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

DAVID P. CLEARY, STAFF DIRECTOR
EVAN SCHATZ, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

<http://help.senate.gov>

January 6, 2017

Walter M. Shaub, Jr.
Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Director Shaub:

I write to request information regarding the status of your ethics review of Elisabeth (“Betsy”) DeVos, President-elect Trump’s designee to be Secretary of the Department of Education. The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (“HELP”) Committee is scheduled to hold a confirmation hearing on Ms. DeVos on Wednesday, January 11th.

Only in rare instances has the Senate HELP Committee held a confirmation hearing without first receiving a letter from the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) explaining the steps the nominee will take under an ethics agreement to address financial conflicts as required by law, as well as a certified financial disclosure form (OGE-278). In fact, all of President Obama’s Cabinet nominees in HELP’s jurisdiction provided certified OGE-278s and ethics agreements prior to their hearings.

Given Ms. DeVos’ very significant financial resources and the high position of public trust to which she will be nominated, it is essential that our Committee fully understand in advance of the hearing what are the potential conflicts of interest and the steps she will take in order to comply with federal ethics laws and regulations.

Earlier this week, the nominee provided answers to the questions posed on the HELP Committee questionnaire. While that document makes significant disclosures, it has made me further question the status of the OGE process. It is my understanding that a nominee submitting a financial disclosure form is the first step in an ethics review. The financial disclosure form then undergoes an ethics review by the agency to which the nominee is being nominated. The nominee must enter into a formal, signed agreement with the agency’s ethics official to resolve any “actual or apparent” conflicts of interest, and have his or her disclosure and agreement certified by the OGE.

These ethics agreements are critically important, as they bind nominees to any necessary recusals, divestitures, resignations, waivers, qualified trusts, outside earned income limitations,

and resolve severance and other payments. It is the nominee's pledge to abide by the specific steps in the ethics agreement. OGE's certification that those steps will resolve any financial conflicts is critical in order for the Senate to fully consider a nomination.

Given the nominee's significant assets and potential conflicts, I am seeking a better understanding regarding where the nominee stands in the process and seeking answers to the following questions:

1. Have OGE and the Department of Education received all the necessary information from Mrs. DeVos?
2. Has the report been filed with OGE?
3. Has an ethics agreement been completed?
4. Has OGE reviewed and certified both Ms. DeVos' financial disclosure form (OGE-278) and ethics agreement?
5. Are there outstanding ethics issues that still need to be resolved?
6. Can you provide an estimate of how long it will take to reach and certify an agreement?

I would appreciate any information you can share about the timing and status of the DeVos review. Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Murray".

Patty Murray
United States Senator

Cc: The Honorable Lamar Alexander
United States Senator

From: [Stein, Beth \(HELP Committee\)](#)
To: [Director of OGE](#)
Cc: [Rush, Carly \(HELP Committee\)](#)
Subject: RE: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 6:10:32 PM

Thank you Matthew and please thank the Director for the fast turn-around.

Beth Stein

From: Director of OGE [mailto:director@oge.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 5:49 PM
To: Stein, Beth (HELP Committee)
Cc: Rush, Carly (HELP Committee)
Subject: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray

Please see attached.

Any queries regarding the content of this letter may be directed to our Chief of Staff and Program Counsel, Ms. Shelley Finlayson. She can be reached at 202-482-9314 or skfinlay@oge.gov.

I am available to help with any logistical inquiries.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.

Confidential Assistant to the Director

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Tel. 202.482.9286

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov

Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

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From: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
To: "[Cohen, Brian \(Warren\)](#)"; [Shelley K. Finlayson](#)
Cc: [Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly \(Schumer\)](#)
Subject: RE: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 7:03:18 PM

Thank you. I am confirming receipt of this email. We will endeavor to respond promptly. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Shelley Finlayson of my staff at (202) 482-9314 if you have any questions.

Walter M. Shaub, Jr.
Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: 202.482.9292
Email: walter.schaub@oge.gov

From: Cohen, Brian (Warren) [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Walter M. Shaub; Shelley K. Finlayson
Cc: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer)
Subject: FW: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

[This time with the correct email for Mr. Shaub](#)

From: Cohen, Brian (Warren)
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 6:57 PM
To: 'walter.schaub@oge.gov' <walter.schaub@oge.gov>; 'skfinlay@oge.gov' <skfinlay@oge.gov>
Cc: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer) (b) (6)
Subject: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

Good evening – attached you will find a letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren with questions about the OGE review process for President-Elect Trump’s Cabinet nominees. Please let Rebecca or me know if you have any questions. We look forward to your timely response.

Brian

Brian A. Cohen
Oversight and Investigations Director
Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)

(b) (6)

From: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
To: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Subject: FW: Courtesy Copy of OGE's Response to Sen's Schumer and Warren
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 5:13:35 PM
Attachments: [Response to Senators Schumer and Warren \(Schumer\).pdf](#)

From: Brandon A. Steele
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Matthew A. Marinec
Subject: FW: Courtesy Copy of OGE's Response to Sen's Schumer and Warren

From: Brandon A. Steele
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 5:08 PM
To: (b) (6), Phil Maxson (McConnell)
Subject: Courtesy Copy of OGE's Response to Sen's Schumer and Warren

Dear Phil Maxson:

Attached, please find a courtesy copy of the response that the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) sent to Senators Schumer and Warren on January 6, 2017.

Best regards,

Brandon A. Steele
Attorney Advisor
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave NW
Suite #500
Washington, D.C. 20005
Ph: 202-482-9209
basteele@oge.gov

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
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From: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
To: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Subject: FW: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 5:49:55 PM
Attachments: [OGE Response to Letter from Ranking Member Patty Murray.pdf](#)

As discussed.

From: Director of OGE
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 5:49 PM
To: (b) (6) Beth Stein (HELP) & Carly Rush (HELP)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray

Please see attached.

Any queries regarding the content of this letter may be directed to our Chief of Staff and Program Counsel, Ms. Shelley Finlayson. She can be reached at 202-482-9314 or skfinlay@oge.gov.

I am available to help with any logistical inquiries.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

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From: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
To: [Shelley K. Finlayson](#)
Subject: FW: Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray
Date: Sunday, January 08, 2017 4:35:20 PM
Attachments: [010616 DeVos - OGE Letter.pdf](#)

I just noticed you weren't copied.

Walter M. Shaub, Jr.
Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: 202.482.9292
Email: walter.shaub@oge.gov

From: Stein, Beth (HELP Committee) [mailto:[\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Saturday, January 07, 2017 5:11 PM
To: Walter M. Shaub
Cc: Rush, Carly (HELP Committee)
Subject: Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray

Dear Director Shaub,

Attached please find a letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray inquiring about the status of ethics review of Betsy DeVos, currently scheduled for a confirmation hearing next Wednesday January 11th. We appreciate your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me at [\(b\) \(6\)](#). Thank you and apologies for the Saturday email.

Beth Stein

Beth Stein
General Counsel and Oversight Counsel
Senate HELP Committee
Ranking Member Murray

From: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
To: (b) (6) Stacy Amin (HELP)
Subject: OGE Response to Letter from Ranking Member Patty Murray
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 5:58:01 PM
Attachments: [OGE Response to Letter from Ranking Member Patty Murray.pdf](#)

Please see attached.

Any queries regarding the content of this letter may be directed to our Chief of Staff and Program Counsel, Ms. Shelley Finlayson. She can be reached at 202-482-9314 or skfinlay@oge.gov.

I am available to help with any logistical inquiries.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Subject: FW: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 11:16:19 PM

Walter M. Shaub, Jr.
Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: 202.482.9292
Email: walter.shaub@oge.gov

From: Stein, Beth (HELP Committee) [mailto:[\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 6:10 PM
To: Director of OGE
Cc: Rush, Carly (HELP Committee)
Subject: RE: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray

Thank you Matthew and please thank the Director for the fast turn-around.

Beth Stein

From: Director of OGE [mailto:director@oge.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 5:49 PM
To: Stein, Beth (HELP Committee)
Cc: Rush, Carly (HELP Committee)
Subject: OGE Response to Letter from HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray

Please see attached.

Any queries regarding the content of this letter may be directed to our Chief of Staff and Program Counsel, Ms. Shelley Finlayson. She can be reached at 202-482-9314 or skfinlay@oge.gov.

I am available to help with any logistical inquiries.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

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UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



January 9, 2017

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education,
Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Murray:

This responds to your letter of January 7, 2017, requesting specific information regarding the ethics review of a named individual who has been announced as an intended nominee of the President-elect. The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) generally avoids providing information about individual nominees, but believes that the information regarding the nominee financial disclosure process provided below is responsive to your request.

It is necessary to avoid formally sharing information regarding OGE's ongoing work on individual nominations whenever releasing such information could undermine the purposes of the nominee ethics review process by slowing the effective review the financial disclosure report and completion of an ethics agreement to resolve identified conflicts of interest, potentially leading to the release of incomplete or incorrect information, or harming individual nominees and the overall recruitment for positions the President needs to fill in order to carry out his constitutional responsibilities. OGE adheres to this nondisclosure practice as closely as possible, particularly if other information may satisfy the interests underlying the request.

In this instance, the additional information about OGE's work and the nomination process provided below may address the concerns underlying your request. As explained below, if OGE has not transmitted a certified financial disclosure report and an ethics agreement to the Senate, the ethics work on a particular nomination has not been completed. Until all of the ethics work is completed, OGE cannot provide any assurance that conflicts of interest have been identified and resolved. Our responses to your specific questions below provide an explanation of the steps necessary to complete this important work.

QUESTIONS 1, 4 AND 5

A nominee submits a draft public financial disclosure report (OGE Form 278e) through OGE's electronic filing system (*Integrity*). Ethics officials review the draft financial disclosure report, ask follow-up questions, and provide instructions for revising

the report. Multiple rounds of questions and revisions are almost always needed before a report can be finalized to meet the complex disclosure requirements of the Ethics in Government Act. Once the report is complete, as a result of these revisions, OGE and agency ethics officials analyze the information contained in the report to identify potential conflicts of interest with the duties of the position for which the nominee is being nominated. OGE and agency ethics officials then work together to prepare an ethics agreement outlining steps the nominee must take to avoid conflicts.

Until OGE has precleared a report, OGE does not have all necessary information from a nominee and has not resolved all potential conflicts of interest. Often, there are delays while a nominee searches for information that OGE has requested, while a nominee enters the information into the draft financial disclosure report, while a nominee considers his or her willingness to take the steps necessary to resolve conflicts of interest, or while a nominee considers the ethics agreement that OGE and agency ethics officials have drafted. OGE's staff and agency ethics officials typically complete their work quickly. The two primary determinants in the timing of this process are the complexity of the nominee's holdings and the nominee's level of responsiveness to questions from agency ethics officials. However, the requirement to obtain OGE's certification prior to a hearing invariably provides the necessary leverage to secure the cooperation and legal compliance from nominees. Of course, that leverage is greatly diminished if a hearing is held prior to OGE's preclearance and subsequent certification.¹

Once complete, OGE preclears (that is, tentatively approves) the nominee's report and ethics agreement. The nominee then finalizes the report and OGE is able to certify it. Shortly thereafter, the report is transmitted to the Senate.

QUESTION 2

Nominees submit their initial draft reports through OGE's electronic filing system, *Integrity*. The White House—or, during a Presidential transition, the transition team—receives the report and holds it until ready to release the report to OGE and the agency. The length of time that the White House or transition team holds the report before releasing it varies widely.

The date of initial submission of the draft is recorded as the date of "filing" on the face of the report. However, filing is actually a two-step process. *Integrity* does not allow the nominee to complete the process of "filing" until OGE has precleared (tentatively approved) the report. After OGE has precleared the report, the nominee must log back into the system and formally file the report by certifying that the information in the finalized report is correct. OGE then certifies the report and sends the report to the Senate. Therefore, until OGE has precleared a nominee's financial disclosure report, the

¹ In a letter last week, I indicated that I was unaware of any such thing ever having happened. Subsequent news reports have brought to my attention two instances, both of which occurred 16 years ago during the unusual circumstance of a Presidential transition that was delayed several weeks due to litigation. Even if there were any other instances, the fact that there may have been extremely rare breaches of the ethics process in the past is not a justification for a subsequent breach. (See <http://www.politico.com/f/?id=00000159-70db-d0f6-a75d-ffffb2ae0002>.)

nominee cannot comply with the legal requirement under 5 U.S.C. app. § 101(b)(2) to “file” the required report prior to a hearing, for the simple reason that the electronic filing system does not permit the nominee to complete the two-step process of “filing” that report until the report has been precleared.

QUESTION 3

The commitments that nominees make in their ethics agreements ensure that they will be able to carry out their duties as Presidential appointees. The ethics agreement outlines the specific steps a nominee will take to avoid conflicts of interest identified in his or her financial disclosure report. OGE and agency ethics officials draft each ethics agreement using standardized language from OGE’s ethics agreement guide, which is tailored to the nominee’s unique circumstances. The nominee must agree to take the steps outlined in the agreement to resolve his or her conflicts of interest; for example, resignation of positions, divestiture of holdings, or recusal. When OGE is satisfied that the report is complete and the ethics agreement has resolved all ethics issues, OGE preclears the report, the nominee finalizes it, and OGE is then able to certify it. Shortly thereafter, the report is transmitted to the Senate.

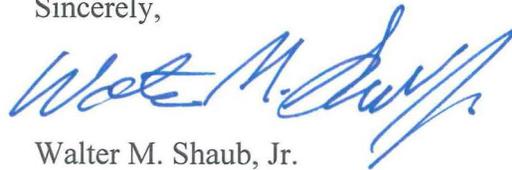
QUESTION 6

It is impossible to predict how long the process will take for any individual nominee because OGE is dependent on the nominee to provide needed information, respond to questions, and accept the terms of an ethics agreement. Many factors affect the timing of this process, including the responsiveness of the nominee. Another factor is the complexity and extent of the nominee’s financial holdings and arrangements. It usually takes even the most responsive nominees time to gather the information they are required to produce, particularly if they are wealthy. Multiple rounds of questions and revisions are usually needed before a report can be finalized because the financial disclosure requirements in the Ethics in Government Act are quite complex. Some nominees also find it difficult to untangle their complex financial investments and employment arrangements quickly, especially if they wish to do so without incurring otherwise avoidable financial losses. For these reasons, the financial disclosure vetting process for a potential nominee can take weeks and, in the case of extremely wealthy individuals, sometimes months. Through focused effort, OGE’s and agency ethics officials help nominees to complete their work on these reports as quickly as possible without sacrificing quality.

I hope you have found the information provided regarding the nominee financial disclosure process helpful. I also hope this response provides clarity about the significance of the Senate not having received a certified financial disclosure report and an ethics agreement from

OGE prior to holding a hearing on a nominee. If you require more detailed information about this specific named individual, the President-elect's transition team may be able to provide it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Walter M. Shaub, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Walter M. Shaub, Jr.
Director

cc: The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 5, 2017

Mr. Walter M. Schaub, Jr.
Director
Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Schaub:

We write today to request information on your agency's implementation of the Ethics in Government Act and how the process to address potential conflicts of interest is proceeding with respect to President-elect Donald Trump's intended cabinet nominees.

As you are aware, President-elect Trump has announced the names of those he intends to nominate to serve in his Cabinet, and the Majority in the Senate has announced hearing dates for many of them, starting as early as Tuesday of next week. Under the precedent established by previous Presidential transitions, these hearings have not been conducted unless and until the nominees have submitted a substantial set of materials to the Senate, including a signed letter from the Office of Government Ethics certifying that there are no unresolved conflict of interest. Nominees must, at or before the commencement of the first Senate committee hearing to consider their nomination, file an updated statement with the appropriate Senate committee. Failure to adhere to these long-standing conflict of interest requirements may subject an appointee to criminal or civil penalties under federal law.

Many of the President-elect's Cabinet nominees are extremely wealthy individuals with complex financial situations. In the past, similarly situated Cabinet nominees have taken many months to complete and execute an ethics agreement to bring them into compliance with the Ethics in Government Act and federal criminal conflict of interest law. For example, it has been widely reported that Penny Pritzker's ethics agreement took six months to complete.

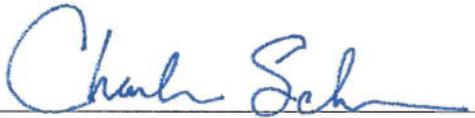
The law contemplates an expedited review of financial disclosure statements in circumstances such as a presidential transition. But even under these circumstances, neither your office nor the nominees are exempt from the requirements of the law. We are concerned that, in a rush to schedule numerous hearings all at once next week, pressure may be put on your office to rush through your legally required reviews in a way that could compromise full compliance with the law.

To that end, we would appreciate if you would tell us whether you have been asked to conduct an expedited review of a financial disclosure statement under a timeline you believe would not allow you to fulfill your responsibilities under the Ethics in Government Act.

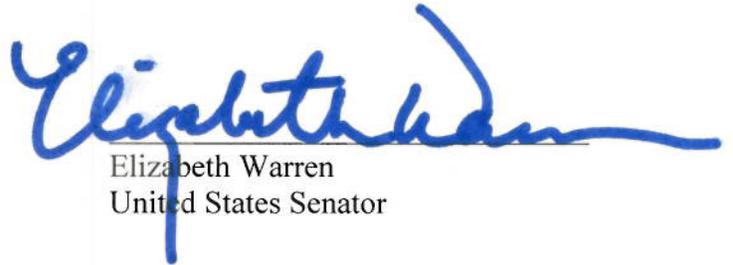
We appreciate the important role your office places in assuring that public servants remain free from conflicts of interest and that public service remains a public trust. It is important that Congress supports your office's ability to fulfill its responsibilities under the Ethics in Government Act and neither accepts nor participates in any inappropriate pressure on you to limit the execution of your responsibilities. We would appreciate a response to this letter as rapidly as possible, and no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of any confirmation hearings.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Matthew A. Marinec](#)
Subject: FW: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 2:06:39 PM
Attachments: [Schumer Warren Letter to Schaub 010516.pdf](#)
[Response to Senators Schumer and Warren \(Warren\).pdf](#)

From: Brandon A. Steele
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 4:42 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: (b) (6) Brian Cohen (Warren) & Rebecca Kelly Slaughter
Subject: Re: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren (Schumer)

Dear Brian Cohen:

Attached, please find the response from the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) to Senator Warren's January 5, 2017, letter to OGE. As a courtesy, we have also attached the original letter for reference.

Best regards,

Brandon A. Steele
Attorney Advisor
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave NW
Suite #500
Washington, D.C. 20005
Ph: 202-482-9209
basteele@oge.gov

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From: Cohen, Brian (Warren) [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 7:01 PM

To: Walter M. Schaub; Shelley K. Finlayson
Cc: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer)
Subject: FW: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

This time with the correct email for Mr. Schaub

From: Cohen, Brian (Warren)
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 6:57 PM
To: 'walter.schaub@oge.gov' <walter.schaub@oge.gov>; 'skfinlay@oge.gov' <skfinlay@oge.gov>
Cc: Slaughter, Rebecca Kelly (Schumer) (b) (6)
Subject: Letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren

Good evening – attached you will find a letter from Sens. Schumer and Warren with questions about the OGE review process for President-Elect Trump’s Cabinet nominees. Please let Rebecca or me know if you have any questions. We look forward to your timely response.

Brian

Brian A. Cohen
Oversight and Investigations Director
Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)

(b) (6)