From:	Ruth Weis
To:	Contact OGE
Subject:	Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date:	Friday, June 17, 2022 1:55:08 PM
Attachments:	7A69BEC8-E2DD-4E58-A66A-12B99892087D.png

Greetings;

Ethics in government is critical to the health of our democracy. I have copied a summary of points which align with my concerns. I am fundamentally opposed to leaving regulation of financial support in government optional.

I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should:

- remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional;
- replace the proposed recusal requirement with a broader 5-year recusal requirement that prevents donors of cash gifts from influencing decisions, policies, or regulations affecting them or the industries in which they have substantial interests;
- remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
- place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

I expect our representatives and employees in government to adhere to the highest standards, and it is the job of the OGE to set and hold the bar.

Thank you,
Ruth Kemalyan Weis
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