

May 6, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing to express my support for the *Enhancing Improper Payment Accountability Act*, introduced by Representative Moore. Fraud and improper payments are an enormous and growing problem, one that not only impacts the financial health of the nation, but one that erodes public trust in government.

Today, fraud actors have at their disposal massive amounts of personal information on nearly every American. Coupled with sophisticated technological tools, this makes committing fraud far easier than it's ever been. Inadequate oversight and internal controls coupled with large-scale organized fraud rings contributed to the massive, widespread fraud we saw during the pandemic. Agencies were unprepared for the fraud they encountered largely due to a lack of attention to fraud risks.

I was the architect of the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) *Framework for Managing Fraud Risks in Federal Programs*, which was issued in 2015. This guide describes practices agencies must take to proactively manage their risks to fraud and improper payments. However, legislation requiring the adoption of these practices has expired and agencies are no longer compelled to take these actions.

Further, the Comptroller General has urged Congress to create more stringent and timely reporting requirements for new programs in initial years of operation that spend over \$100 million annually, and given the lessons learned in the pandemic, this is urgently needed. And finally, it is important that the President's budget include detailed information on federal programs susceptible to improper payments not meeting reporting criteria, so that timely action can be taken to improve agencies' adherence to these crucial reporting requirements.

The *Enhancing Improper Payment Accountability Act* enhances accountability and transparency by renewing the requirements for agencies to proactively manage their risks to fraud, enacting the reporting requirements for new programs with \$100 million or more in new spending, and uncovering barriers to reporting for current programs.

I urge Congress to enact the *Enhancing Improper Payment Accountability Act*, which includes common sense reforms to enhance government's ability to proactively prevent and effectively detect and respond to the growing threat of fraud in federal spending.

Sincerely,



Linda Miller

CEO, Audient Group, LLC

Former Deputy Executive Director, Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC)

Former Assistant Director, Government Accountability Office (GAO)



(703) 599-3753



audientgroup.com



6405 3rd St NW
Washington, DC 20012