

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC

April 11, 2025

The Honorable Lori M. Chavez-DeRemer
Secretary of Labor
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC. 20210

Dear Secretary Chavez-DeRemer:

We are deeply concerned by recent reports that the U.S. Department of Labor (The Department) plans to slash capacity at the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs' (OFCCP) by 90 percent and shut down its more than 50 local offices.¹ Federal contract workers make up more than 20 percent of our nation's workers and are spread across the country, making OFCCP a powerful force to prevent and remedy discrimination. We urge you to abandon these plans and instead uphold the Department's responsibility to protect equal employment opportunities for federal contract workers.

For decades, OFCCP has worked effectively to prevent and address unlawful discrimination by investigating individual complaints from workers *and* by proactively reviewing federal contractors' employment practices. This unique power to proactively review whether employers were complying with the law allowed OFCCP to identify discrimination that might have otherwise gone unreported or undiscovered. Federal contract workers have benefited from OFCCP's efforts to recover back pay, salary adjustments, and retroactive seniority on their behalf. In FY 2024, OFCCP recovered \$22.5 million for 12,756 affected workers and negotiated 407 job opportunities for workers.²

Drastic cuts to staff and shuttered offices in our communities would leave workers vulnerable to discrimination. While Executive Order 11246 was revoked, the agency remains responsible for

¹ Davies, E., Natanson, H., & Stein, J. (2025, February 26). DOGE barrels toward fresh round of federal firings, most widescale yet. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved 6 March 2025, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2025/02/26/doge-federal-workforce-firings-job-cuts/>; Mark, J., Nathanson, H., & Abril, D. (2025, February 28). Trump officials start dismantling civil rights offices, as part of DOGE's Secret Plan. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved 6 March 2025, from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2025/02/28/doge-trump-civil-rights-office-closing-eeoc/>

² U.S. Department of Labor. (2024). *DOL FY 2024 Annual Performance Report*. Retrieved 6 March 2025, from <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/general/budget/2024/FY2024APR.pdf>

enforcing anti-discrimination laws and equal employment requirements for workers with disabilities and veterans. As of mid-February, the agency had 317 investigators.³ These investigators remain responsible for investigating thousands of contractor establishments that employ millions of workers.⁴ The estimated 3.6 million federal contract workers dispersed across the United States make investigators in regional and district offices critical for effective enforcement.

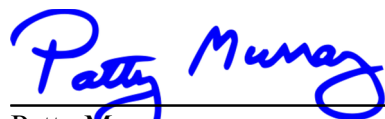
Workers deserve to be treated fairly in all aspects of employment and cannot afford to miss out on pay, a promotion or the chance to be considered for a good paying job because of discrimination. Workers cannot afford to lose their anti-discrimination enforcers.

The Department cannot abdicate its responsibility to workers. We urge you to abandon plans to dismantle OFCCP and reaffirm the Department's commitment to protecting equal employment opportunities for federal contract workers.

Sincerely,



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

³ Heckman, J. (2025, March 5). Labor Dept seeks 90% staffing cut from federal contractor watchdog. *Federal News Network*. Retrieved 6 March 2025, from <https://federalnewsnetwork.com/agency-oversight/2025/03/labor-dept-seeks-90-staffing-cut-from-federal-contractor-watchdog/?readmore=1>

⁴ Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. (2025). *FY 2025 Congressional Budget Justification*. Retrieved 6 March 2025, from <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/general/budget/2025/CBJ-2025-V2-10.pdf>

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Dina Titus
Member of Congress



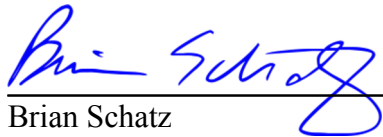
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Special
Committee on Aging



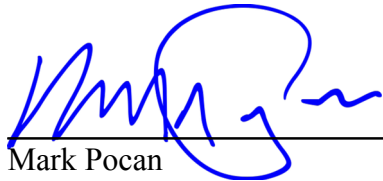
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



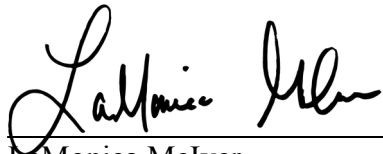
Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



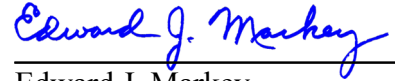
LaMonica McIver
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Gwen S. Moore
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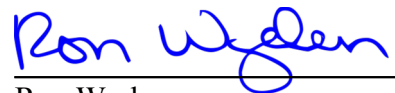
Judy Chu
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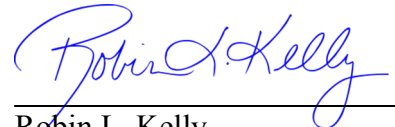
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Bernard Sanders
United States Senator

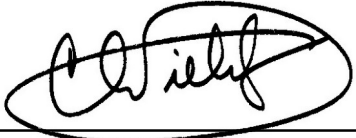


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United States Senator



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Member of Congress



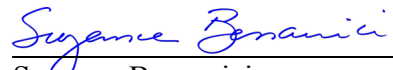
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



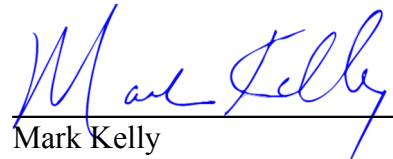
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Suzanne Bonamici
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Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
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Alex Padilla
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Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



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Member of Congress



Jack Reed
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Tammy Duckworth
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