



April 23, 2024

The Honorable Gary Peters
724 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitt Romney
354 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Peters and Romney:

On behalf of Taxpayers for Common Sense, I am writing to express our strong support for the Government Spending Oversight Act of 2024 (S. 4036). Our organization is dedicated to ensuring that tax dollars are spent responsibly and efficiently, and we believe that this legislation is a significant step forward in enhancing transparency, accountability, and the prevention of improper payments across federal spending.

The establishment of the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) under the CARES Act has demonstrated the critical role that data analysis and oversight play in identifying and preventing fraud and misuse of taxpayer dollars.¹ The PRAC, through its Pandemic Accountability Center for Excellence (PACE), has provided invaluable tools for the inspector general community to analyze agency data, identify potential fraud, and prevent misuse of covered funds. The success of these efforts underscores the necessity of maintaining and expanding these capabilities beyond the pandemic response.

S. 4036 proposes to adapt and extend the authorities of the PRAC by creating a new Government Spending Oversight Committee (GSOC) within the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) on September 30, 2025. This new committee would inherit the PRAC's mission and expand its jurisdiction to include oversight of significant federal spending initiatives such as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and several other existing programs. By doing so, S. 4036 ensures that the lessons learned and the infrastructure developed during the pandemic are not lost but rather applied to broader federal spending oversight.

The need for such oversight mechanisms is clear. The federal government has reported an estimated \$236 billion in improper payments during the most recently completed fiscal year, highlighting the ongoing challenge of payment errors that include overpayments, underpayments, inaccurate recordkeeping, and fraud.²

The establishment of GSOC, as proposed in S. 4036, would provide a structured and permanent solution to address these challenges across a wide range of federal programs.

Taxpayers for Common Sense applauds your leadership on this issue and fully supports the passage of S. 4036, the Government Spending Oversight Act of 2024. We believe that this legislation will significantly

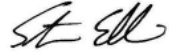
¹ Ben Wilhelm, "The Government Spending Oversight Act and the Future of the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee" (Congressional Research Service, April 5, 2024), <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IN/IN12346>.

² U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Federal Government Made \$236 billion 'Improper Payments' Last Fiscal Year," last modified April 5, 2024, <https://www.gao.gov/blog/federal-government-made-236-billion-improper-payments-last-fiscal-year>.

enhance the federal government's ability to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used effectively and for their intended purposes.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your ongoing efforts to improve government accountability and transparency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SE" followed by a stylized flourish.

Stephen Ellis
President