

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

TIM WALBERG, MICHIGAN, *Chairman*

JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA  
VIRGINIA FOXX, NORTH CAROLINA  
GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA  
GLENN GROTHMAN, WISCONSIN  
ELISE M. STEFANIK, NEW YORK  
RICK W. ALLEN, GEORGIA  
JAMES COMER, KENTUCKY  
BURGESS OWENS, UTAH  
LISA C. MCCLAIN, MICHIGAN  
MARY E. MILLER, ILLINOIS  
JULIA LETLOW, LOUISIANA  
KEVIN KILEY, CALIFORNIA  
ERIN HOUCHEIN, INDIANA  
MICHAEL RULLI, OHIO  
JAMES C. MOYLAN, GUAM  
ROBERT F. ONDER, JR., MISSOURI  
RYAN MACKENZIE, PENNSYLVANIA  
MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER, WASHINGTON  
MARK HARRIS, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARK B. MESSMER, INDIANA



COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2176 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA,  
*Ranking Member*

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA  
JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT  
FREDERICA S. WILSON, FLORIDA  
SUZANNE BONAMICI, OREGON  
MARK TAKANO, CALIFORNIA  
ALMA S. ADAMS, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARK DESAULNIER, CALIFORNIA  
DONALD NORCROSS, NEW JERSEY  
LUCY MCBATH, GEORGIA  
JAHANA HAYES, CONNECTICUT  
ILHAN OMAR, MINNESOTA  
HALEY M. STEVENS, MICHIGAN  
GREG CASAR, TEXAS  
SUMMER L. LEE, PENNSYLVANIA  
JOHN W. MANNION, NEW YORK

February 21, 2025

Louis Charlier  
Acting Chief Information Officer  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Mr. Charlier:

I write with serious concerns about recent actions that threaten the privacy of sensitive data housed by U.S. Department of Labor (DOL or the Department).

Through the "Department" of Government Efficiency (DOGE), Elon Musk and his staff have gained access to some of the federal government's most far reaching and sensitive data systems. Specifically, it is my understanding that DOGE has demanded access to all DOL's IT systems. At stake are the integrity of investigations into workplace health, mine safety, and child labor violations, including the identity of witnesses and workers who file complaints; the personal privacy of workers and families who receive medical and financial support from the black lung program and other workers' compensation programs; the confidentiality of whistleblowers under dozens of whistleblower protection laws; the trustworthiness of market-moving Bureau of Labor Statistics data; and confidential business information of countless companies, exposure of which could upend the nation's economy. Also at risk are highly classified information about nuclear facilities and processes entrusted to DOL staff with security clearances, for purposes of the *Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000*.<sup>1</sup> On Friday, February 7, a federal judge declined to block DOGE from accessing DOL's systems, which could allow DOGE access to all this sensitive data stored by the Department.<sup>2</sup> The full extent regarding the volume and nature of accessed protected information is still unknown.

<sup>1</sup> PUB. L. NO. 106-398, §§ 3601 *et. seq.* (2000).

<sup>2</sup> Lauren Kaori Gurley, *Judge Lets DOGE Access Sensitive Records at Labor Department*, WASH. POST (Feb. 8, 2025), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2025/02/08/doge-labor-department/>.

These actions could run afoul of federal laws, including the *Privacy Act of 1974*,<sup>3</sup> which protects Americans' personal identifiable information. I urge you to protect private data within your Department to the fullest extent, and to encourage all officials at DOL to do the same.

Additionally, I request your responses to the following no later than March 7, 2025:

1. Please provide a list and detailed description of the agency databases DOGE has sought, been granted, or accessed.
2. Have DOGE employees been granted read-only access to agency databases, or do they have the ability to modify the data and/or the underlying software?
3. Have all DOGE employees granted access to agency databases been legally authorized to access such databases? If so, please provide all relevant authorization documentation.
4. Please provide a detailed description of the precautions DOGE or agency employees have taken to protect the security of agency data, pursuant to federal data privacy laws.
5. Please provide a detailed description of the legitimate purpose(s) for granting access to agency databases to DOGE.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions about this request, please contact the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Education and Workforce.

Sincerely,



---

**ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**  
Ranking Member

---

<sup>3</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 552a.