

March 2, 2015

The Honorable Ed Cassidy
Chief Administrative Officer
U.S. House of Representatives
Room HB 26
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear CAO Cassidy:

This letter follows my February 3, 2015 letter and a February 19, 2015 email to you requesting that your office provide information to aid the Committee's investigation into how Congress qualified as a "small business" to entitle it to benefits from the District of Columbia Health Benefit Exchange Authority's (DCHBEA) Small Business Exchange. To date, you have not given any responsive information due to your belief that the Committee does not have jurisdiction to investigate the House of Representatives in this case.¹

As was previously advised, the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship possesses broad jurisdiction to investigate matters relating to and affecting small businesses. Since the House of Representatives officially declared itself to be a small business to obtain healthcare benefits and subsidies shouldered by taxpayers (including small businesses), this matter falls squarely within the scope of the Committee's jurisdiction. Accordingly, the Committee, the small business community, and the American people have a clear right to know why a body of the federal government that employs several thousand people can get away with asserting, subject to penalty,² that it employs less than 50 persons, among other blatant misrepresentations on the application. Such special, unfair, and highly suspicious conduct demands oversight and investigation of all parties involved, including the House of Representatives.

Now, and for the third time, I am requesting that you cooperate with this important investigation by identifying the offices and entities in Congress that your office worked with,

¹ Letter from the Hon. Ed Cassidy, Chief Administrative Officer, to David Vitter, Chairman, (Feb. 13, 2015) (on file with the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship).

² Letter and enclosures from Mary Beth Senkewicz, Associate General Counsel and Policy Advisor, to Michael Bekesha, (Sept. 5, 2014); <http://www.judicialwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Vining-v-DC-Health-Benefit-Exchange.pdf>; the DCHBEA application states that "I've provided true and correct answers to all the questions on this form to the best of my knowledge. I know that if I'm not truthful there may be a penalty."

consulted, or followed orders from while completing and submitting the application to DCHBEA to allow the House of Representatives to receive health benefits on DCHBEA's Small Business Exchange. Such a request is more than reasonable and very easy to fully accommodate in the generous time provided to your office to respond.

I again ask that you please direct this information to the Committee's office in the Russell Senate Office Building, Room 428A, by 6:00pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. If I still do not receive anything by that time, the Committee will be forced to consider compulsory means to obtain your cooperation. This is a step we hope to avoid. If you would like to further discuss this matter, please call the Committee at (202) 224-5175.

Thank you,



David Vitter

Chairman

U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship