



U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

441 G St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20548

June 30, 2026

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter asking for GAO to review matters related to the impacts of staff reductions at the U.S. Department of Education on its ability to root out fraud, waste and abuse of the Title IV financial aid funds.

GAO accepts your request as work that is within the scope of its authority. As agreed by your staff, we will address this work as part of our response to a related request from Ranking Member Bernard Sanders, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Your letter has been forwarded to Ms. Cindy Brown Barnes, Managing Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security. Closer to the time GAO can start the engagement, Ms. Brown Barnes or a member of her team will be in contact your office to discuss the engagement.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Brown Barnes at 202-512-7215 or brownbarnesc@gao.gov, or Ms. Sara Pelton, Assistant Director, Congressional Relations, on my staff at 202-512-8856 or peltons@gao.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Powner".

David Powner
Acting Managing Director
Congressional Relations

Ref: CCAR 26-0654