

June 21, 2022

Office of Congressional Workplace Rights
John Adams Building
110 Second Street SE, Room LA-200
Washington, DC 20540-1999
Via email: ocwrinfo@ocwr.gov

Re: OCWR Congressional Budget Justifications

Dear Acting Director James:

We are writing concerning publication of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights' Congressional Budget Justification on its website. As you know, a Congressional Budget Justification is a plain-language explanation of how an office or agency proposes to spend the funds it has requested be appropriated for its activities. Online publication of CBJs is a routine practice across the federal government that provides transparency and accountability concerning an agency's funding levels.

During your April 5, 2022, testimony before the House Legislative Branch Appropriations Committee, Rep. Newhouse said he could not find a copy of the OCWR's CBJ for FY 2023 or prior years and inquired about whether you would publish those documents online. You responded that you would do so. We followed up with you privately and you indicated you have no plans to publish the documents on your website and would defer to the Appropriations Committee on whether and the extent to which you will make the report publicly available. We are confused, as you committed to publish the report on your website during your testimony before the Appropriations subcommittee. We respectfully urge you to follow through on your commitment to the Appropriations subcommittee, and to share with us a timeline for when you expect to publish the current and prior Congressional Budget Justifications on OCWR's website.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. Please contact me at daniel@demandprogress.org or 240-237-3930. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Schuman
Policy Director, Demand Progress Education Fund

cc: House Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee
Committee on House Administration