

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2025

Arne B. Baker
Acting Inspector General
Office of Inspector General
U.S. Department of State
1700 North Moore Street (SA-39)
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Acting Inspector General Baker:

We write to request an investigation into waste and mismanagement on the part of the U.S. Department of State, which has reportedly chosen to destroy nearly 500 metric tons of emergency food aid and \$9.7 million worth of contraceptives rather than delivering the much-needed aid as intended.

According to reporting, the State Department intends to destroy roughly \$800,000 worth of high-energy biscuits intended to feed children under five years of age.¹ That comes after alleged severe mismanagement of the food aid, including multiple officials failing to respond to memos regarding future plans for the biscuits for months.² After that failure of leadership, the Department now plans to spend \$130,000 – on top of the original \$800,000 – to incinerate the planned food aid.³

Following a similar pattern, the State Department also reportedly still intends to destroy \$9.7 million of contraceptives, including IUDs and birth control implants, at the cost of \$167,000 to the American taxpayer.⁴ Concerningly, the reporting found that these contraceptives are perfectly viable for delivery; they are long-lasting, with an expiration date of 2027, and most do not include USAID labels that would require rebranding.⁵ Incinerating contraceptives that are viable, with no rush and clear demand, is the equivalent of lighting U.S. taxpayer dollars on fire.

This pattern of intentional incineration at the expense of the U.S. taxpayer is financially wasteful, morally bankrupt, and an attack on the American humanitarian tradition. These actions place ideological beliefs and politics above a faithful commitment to U.S. law, contracts, and humanitarian agreements. Given that these officials have given no indication that they will place the law over their personal vendettas against our humanitarian tradition, external oversight is necessary.

¹ [The Trump Administration Is About to Incinerate 500 Tons of Emergency Food | The Atlantic](#)

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ [Trump administration to destroy nearly \\$10m of contraceptives for women overseas | The Guardian](#)

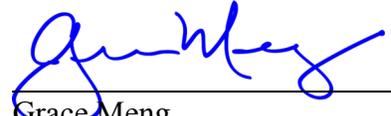
⁵ *Ibid.*

We therefore request that your office immediately open an investigation into this documented waste of existing State Department supplies and waste of additional taxpayer funds to destroy those supplies, as well as the Department's refusal to use these commodities for their intended purposes or partner with organizations or countries willing to take on responsibility for these commodities. Please provide an update on the status of such investigation by August 8, 2025.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



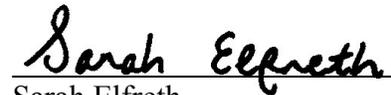
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



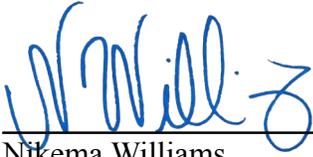
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



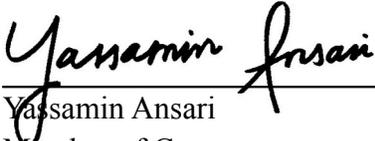
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



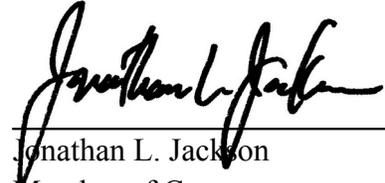
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



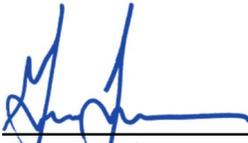
Jonathan L. Jackson
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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
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Mike Quigley
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Stephen F. Lynch
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Dave Min
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Maxine Waters
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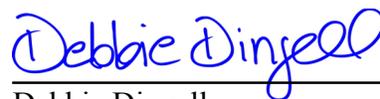
Lateefah Simon
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Nanette Diaz Barragan
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Lloyd Doggett
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Debbie Dingell
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Sylvia R. Garcia
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Sarah McBride
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Ami Bera, M.D.
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Dina Titus
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Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



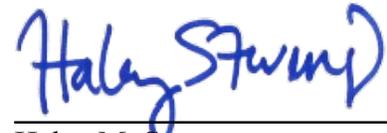
Steve Cohen
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Dwight Evans
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Nydia M. Velázquez
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Haley M. Stevens
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Marc A. Veasey
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Darren Soto
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Danny K. Davis
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Jared Huffman
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Mike Levin
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MARK TAKANO
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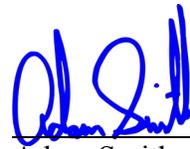
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



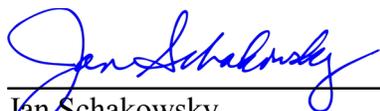
Julia Brownley
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Marcy Kaptur
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Adam Smith
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Norma J. Torres
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Laura Friedman
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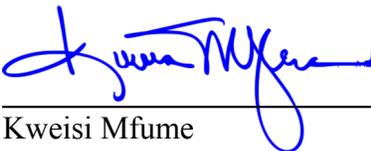
Chrissy Houlahan
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Yvette D. Clarke
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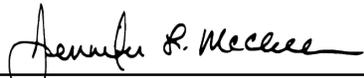
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



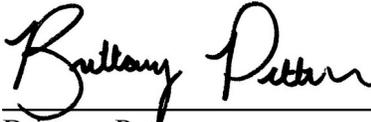
Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



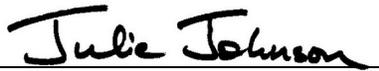
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
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Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



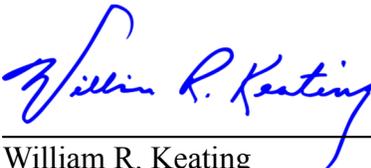
Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



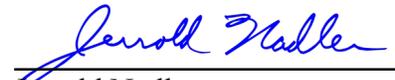
Ed Case
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Eric Swalwell
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Paul D. Tonko
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Ferrol Nadler
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Robin L. Kelly
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Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman

Bonnie Watson Coleman
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