

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
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<https://oversight.house.gov>

December 3, 2025

The Honorable Tim Walz
Governor
State of Minnesota
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating reports of widespread fraud in Minnesota's social services programs. The Committee has serious concerns about how you as the Governor, and the Democrat-controlled administration, allowed millions of dollars to be stolen.¹ The Committee also has concerns that you and your administration were fully aware of this fraud and chose not to act for fear of political retaliation. The Committee therefore requests documents and communications showing what your administration knew about this fraud and whether you took action to limit or halt the investigation into this widespread fraud.

Federal prosecutors in Minnesota have charged dozens of people with felonies for allegedly stealing over \$240 million in Federal Child Nutrition Program funds from a Minnesota-based non-profit Feeding our Future, a government program designed to feed children during the COVID-19 Pandemic.² Minnesota state agencies reimbursed the non-profit group and its partners invoices claiming to have fed thousands of children, when in reality, the meals were never provided, and the fraudsters spent taxpayer dollars on luxury cars, houses, foreign companies and real estate projects in Minnesota, Ohio, Kentucky, and abroad.³ As of November 24, 2025, 78 defendants have been charged in the scheme⁴ and over 55 have been convicted so far.⁵

¹ Ernesto Londoño, *How Fraud Swamped Minnesota's Social Services System on Tim Walz's Watch*, THE N.Y. TIMES (updated Nov. 30, 2025).

² Londoño, *supra* note 1; Press Release, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney Announces Federal Charges Against 47 Defendants in \$250 Million Feeding Our Future Fraud Scheme (Sept. 20, 2022).

³ Londoño, *supra* note 1; Press Release, U.S. Department of Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, Minneapolis woman pleads guilty in \$250 million Feeding Our Future fraud scheme (Feb. 25, 2025); Press Release, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney Announces Federal Charges Against 47 Defendants in \$250 Million Feeding Our Future Fraud Scheme (Sept. 20, 2022).

⁴ Press Release, United States Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota, 78th Defendant Charged in Feeding Our Future Fraud Scheme (Nov. 24, 2025).

⁵ Press Release, United States Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota, 56th Defendant Pleads Guilty in Feeding Our Future Fraud Scheme (Sept. 18, 2025).

This is not an isolated incident. Another group fraudulently billed the State of Minnesota in a housing stabilization scheme where the perpetrators claimed they were helping people at risk of being homeless, costing taxpayers over \$104 million.⁶ A third group claimed to provide treatment for autistic children, all recruited from Minneapolis's Somali community, "falsely certifying them for autism treatment and paying their parents kickbacks for their cooperation."⁷ One provider has been charged so far in this scheme – allegedly stealing \$14 million in taxpayer funds.⁸

Reports show that the State of Minnesota saw red flags indicating that fraud was occurring in the Feeding our Future program but chose at best to ignore the signs or at worst, allowed fraud to occur.⁹ A June 2024 report from the Minnesota Department of Education¹⁰ found that a threat of litigation and negative press from providers engaged in these fraud schemes "affected how state officials used their regulatory power."¹¹ A former fraud investigator in the Minnesota Attorney General's Office said that state regulators, especially those in the Democrat-led administration, were "reluctant" to take action in response to allegations involving the Somali community.¹²

Reporting has also alleged that funds fraudulently obtained through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) by Minnesota's Somali community are being remitted overseas through "hawalas" to recipients in Somalia to fund the Al-Qaeda-linked Islamic terrorist group Al-Shabaab.¹³ Additional allegations from whistleblowers within DHS state that Child Care Assistance Program funds were being remitted overseas since 2014, with funds being directed to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).¹⁴ These whistleblowers also allege that DHS is deleting data to cover up this rampant fraud,¹⁵ while simultaneously refusing to release records on Medicaid fraud to local media.¹⁶ This woeful oversight of remittances is concerning, given that since 2014, under the leadership of then-Congressman and now Attorney General

⁶ Press Release, United States Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota, Defendants Charged in First Wave of Housing Stabilization Fraud Cases (Sept. 18, 2025); Londoño, *supra* note 1.

⁷ Londoño, *supra* note 1.

⁸ Press Release, United States Department of Justice, United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota, First Defendant Charged in Autism Fraud Scheme (Sept. 24, 2025).

⁹ STATE OF MINNESOTA, OFF. OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR, MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: OVERSIGHT OF FEEDING OUR FUTURE SPECIAL REVIEW (June 2024).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Londoño, *supra* note 1.

¹² *Id.*

¹³ Ryan Thorpe & Christopher F. Rufo, "The Largest Funder of Al-Shabaab Is the Minnesota Taxpayer," CITY J. (Nov. 19, 2025).

¹⁴ Minnesota Staff Fraud Reporting Commentary (@Minnesota_DHS), X, (Nov. 29, 2025, 10:29 PM), available at https://x.com/Minnesota_DHS/status/1994972118233059395.

¹⁵ Minnesota Staff Fraud Reporting Commentary (@Minnesota_DHS), X, (Nov. 28, 2025, 9:02 PM), available at https://x.com/Minnesota_DHS/status/1994587855599948220.

¹⁶ Allison Kite, *Minnesota can release records on Medicaid providers accused of fraud — but won't*, THE MINNESOTA STAR TRIBUNE (Nov. 28, 2025).

Keith Ellison, oversight of remittance payments has been the purview of the state.¹⁷ Ellison highlighted that this law would help the Minnesota Somali community, and recent reporting has brought to light that Ellison was caught on tape pledging to help Feeding Our Future fraudsters in a conversation that also included discussion of campaign donations from Somali community leaders to secure your donor base and, only days later, Ellison and his son accepted contributions to their campaigns from the individuals in this meeting.¹⁸

Based on these reports, the Committee is concerned that you were negligent in handling taxpayer dollars that were ultimately stolen and had systems in place that allowed the funds to be funneled to terrorist networks responsible for killing Americans. Whistleblowers have indicated that DHS employees are destroying evidence.¹⁹ The Committee expects that you will take all steps to preserve evidence during this investigation.

To assist the Committee's oversight of this matter, we request the following information, covering the time period January 1, 2019 to the present unless otherwise indicated, as soon as possible but no later than December 17, 2025:

1. All documents and communications between or including the State of Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan concerning the Feeding Our Future program including but not limited to Safari Restaurant, Empire Cuisine and Market LLC, S & S Catering Inc., Haji's Kitchen LLC, Community Enhancement Services Inc., and Brava Restaurant & Café LLC;
2. All documents and communications between or including the State of Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan concerning Minnesota's Housing Stability Services Program including but not limited to Brilliant Minds Services LLC, Faladcare Inc., Leo Human Services LLC, and Liberty Plus LLC;
3. All documents and communications between or including the State of Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan concerning the EIDBI Autism Program including but not limited to Smart Therapy LLC and Asha Farhan Hassan;
4. All documents, records, and communications from the Minnesota Department of Commerce from the period of January 1, 2014 to the present related to any complaints and/or occurrences of remittance payments to Somalia sourced from fraudulent activity,

¹⁷ Money Remittances Improvement Act of 2014, Pub. L. No. 113-156, §2 (b)(2), 128 STAT. 1829 (2014). The Money Remittances Improvement Act of 2014 was introduced by then-Congressman Keith Ellison.

¹⁸ Bill Glahn, *Feeding Our Future: Keith Ellison caught on tape!*, AM. EXPERIMENT (Apr. 9, 2025), available at <https://www.americanexperiment.org/feeding-our-future-keith-ellison-caught-on-tape/>.

¹⁹ Minnesota Staff Fraud Reporting Commentary (@Minnesota_DHS), X, (Nov. 28, 2025, 9:02 PM), available at https://x.com/Minnesota_DHS/status/1994587855599948220.

The Honorable Tim Walz

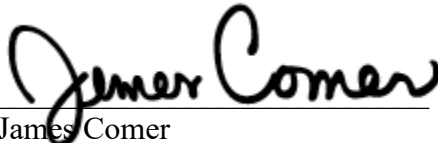
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including but not limited to the individuals charged in the Feeding Our Future fraud case.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. To arrange for delivery of documents or to ask any related follow up questions, please contact the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Majority staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Comer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "C".

James Comer
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Robert Garcia, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform