



October 10, 2024

The Honorable Joni Ernst United States Senate 260 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ernst,

In response to your August 28, 2023, letter asking that my office initiate a review of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding their use and oversight over telework, locality pay, guidance for or incentivizing workforce return to the office, and office space utilization and associated costs, on February 12, 2024, my office initiated an evaluation to assess HUD employees' utilization of remote and telework programs and HUD's administration of locality payments to remote and telework employees.

Specifically, our evaluation focused on: (1) telework and remote work between April 25, 2022, when HUD ended its Maxiflex Telework status, and January 13, 2024; and (2) locality pay for a subset of HUD employees for the period between October 1, 2023-December 31, 2023. We also sent you information about related recommendations OIG made to HUD.

We are pleased to report that we have finished our evaluation report, which is attached for your convenience. The evaluation may also be accessed on our public website.¹As always, my team and I are available to discuss our oversight work or provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Ras alive Downs

Rae Oliver Davis Inspector General

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¹Available at: <u>https://www.hudoig.gov/reports-publications/report/us-department-housing-and-urban-developments-use-and-oversight-telework (October 4, 2024).</u>