

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2025

The Honorable Frank Bisignano
Commissioner
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21235

Dear Commissioner Bisignano:

We write seeking an update on Senator Whitehouse's request at your Finance Committee confirmation hearing that you conduct a "total review" of the Social Security Administration's (SSA) databases to ensure that the activity of the so-called "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE) has not damaged those systems, exposed personally identifiable information, or created "backdoors" for access by bad actors.

Since President Trump took office in January, reports have demonstrated the recklessness of DOGE's invasion at SSA and disregard for the security of Americans' sensitive personal data. In a whistleblower complaint filed recently,¹ SSA's Chief Data Officer revealed that DOGE copied a highly sensitive Social Security database known as Numident – which contains Social Security numbers, birthdates, addresses, and other identifiers of more than 450 million individuals – to an unsecured cloud server without adequate safeguards or oversight. Career cybersecurity officials at SSA described the decision to copy the data as "very high risk," as the whistleblower alleges, and unauthorized access to the system would be considered "catastrophic impact to SSA beneficiaries and SSA programs."

The SSA plays a vital role in safeguarding sensitive personal and financial information. Any compromise of its systems could cause irreparable harm to SSA beneficiaries and programs. The whistleblower account raises the alarming potential that DOGE has exposed Americans' data and personal information that could be exploited by bad actors long after DOGE personnel have departed, and we remain concerned that this account is not an isolated incident. To that end, we respectfully ask that you provide:

1. An update on your review of SSA databases and IT systems;
2. A description of any vulnerabilities, breaches, or irregularities that audit has revealed;
3. The steps SSA has taken to mitigate any risks created by DOGE's activities; and
4. A timeline for completing any outstanding reviews or corrective actions.

¹ <https://whistleblower.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/08-26-2025-Borges-Disclosure-Sanitized.pdf>

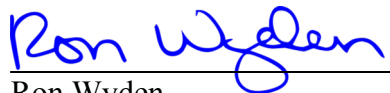
As you know, maintaining the trust of the American people requires ensuring the security and stability of SSA's systems. We urge you to take all appropriate steps to guarantee that DOGE's actions have not left beneficiaries exposed to identity theft, fraud, or other risks.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this issue. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

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Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Wyden", written over a horizontal line.

Ron Wyden
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kirsten Gillibrand", written over a horizontal line.

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bernard Sanders", written over a horizontal line.

Bernard Sanders
United States Senator