

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

October 17, 2024

The Honorable Avril Haines
Director of National Intelligence
1500 Tysons McLean Drive
McLean, VA 22102

Dear Director Haines:

As Chairman of the Committee on House Administration (“CHA”) and as the Ranking Member of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (“PSI”), both with broad oversight of our nation’s federal elections¹, we write to you to raise an urgent concern regarding potential illicit election funding by foreign actors. CHA has been investigating claims that foreign actors, primarily from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China, may be using ActBlue² to launder illicit money into U.S. political campaigns. Our investigation has indicated that these actors may be exploiting existing U.S. donors by making straw donations without their knowledge.

Similarly, as Ranking Member of PSI, Senator Johnson wrote to the Federal Election Commission (“FEC”) in April 2023 regarding a video posted online by the O’Keefe Media Group on March 28, 2023 alleging that political donations are being made in large amounts to certain political groups without the donors’ knowledge.³ The FEC refused to confirm or deny whether it is investigating this matter.

During CHA’s investigation, evidence has emerged pointing to illegal donations being broken into many smaller donations made in the name of existing ActBlue donors without their knowledge. This practice is known as “smurfing,” where illicit actors use prepaid debit, credit, or gift cards in the names of legitimate donors to make straw donations that are virtually impossible to detect.

In October 2023, CHA sent a letter to ActBlue inquiring how it prevents contributions from foreign sources, and whether it requires the card verification value (“CVV”) associated with the credit or debit card used by the contributor when making an online contribution.⁴ ActBlue responded, explaining that it did not require contributors to provide their CVV when making an

¹ Rules of the United States House of Representatives, Rule X(k)(12).

² ActBlue is a political action committee and operates as a conduit for most Democratic candidates and committees, which means donations made through ActBlue are considered individual donations to these other groups.

³ Letter from Ron Johnson, Ranking Member, Permanent Subcomm. on Investigations, to Dara Lindenbaum, Chair, Federal Election Commission, et al., Apr. 17, 2023, <https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/services/files/6D1654EF-A0B0-4314-A1FA-F47C4178C68D>.

⁴ Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., Letter to ActBlue (Oct. 31, 2023), [4922D896A967959D5BC6530F6615E9B9.actblue-letter-final-78-.pdf](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/cead/documents/4922D896A967959D5BC6530F6615E9B9.actblue-letter-final-78-.pdf) (house.gov).

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

online contribution.⁵ This failure to verify donor identity may have allowed foreign actors to fraudulently participate in the political process in the U.S.

Following this concerning information, CHA sent a letter to the FEC requesting it immediately initiate an emergency rulemaking process to require political campaigns to verify the CVV of donors who contribute online and a rulemaking to prohibit political committees from accepting online contributions from gift cards or credit and debit cards.⁶ CHA also introduced H.R. 9488, the Secure Handling of Internet Electronic Donations Act (“SHIELD Act”), that would prohibit political committees like ActBlue from accepting online contributions from debit or credit cards without the disclosure of the CVV and billing address associated with the card. The legislation would prohibit the acceptance of contributions from gift cards, pre-paid credit or debit cards, or gift certificates. The bill also would adopt a bipartisan legislative recommendation from the FEC to prohibit individuals from knowingly aiding or abetting someone that makes a contribution in the name of another person.

CHA also conducted a comprehensive data analysis, comparing over 200 million FEC donation records with data on age, party affiliation, number of donations, consumer purchasing power, and net worth. This study revealed several anomalies and mismatches in the FEC records, suggesting that foreign entities may be using these tactics to interfere with U.S. elections.

Disturbingly, when Ranking Member Johnson asked Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) Director Christopher Wray during a September 25, 2024 secure briefing about election security what the FBI was doing to investigate smurfing, Director Wray seemed clueless on the issue and had no idea if the FBI was doing anything to investigate it. The other briefers—including yourself and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Director Jen Easterly—remained silent.

Based on the evidence gathered, CHA referred this matter to several state Attorneys General for further investigation, including those in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Texas, and Virginia.⁷ Additionally, we have consulted with experts in money laundering, terrorism finance, and credit card processing to better understand how these foreign actors may be exploiting our political donation systems.

⁵ Regina Wallace-Jones, CEO of ActBlue, Letter to the Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., (Nov. 27, 2023), [FEE0032E48BFF011537DA5927F7E9298.response-to-house-admin-committee-11-27-23.pdf](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/cha/000001/000001-11-27-23.pdf).

⁶ Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., Letter to the FEC (Aug. 5, 2024), [AD4186C84F88B81763B784FFFAAA5938.fec-rulemaking-request-letter.pdf \(house.gov\)](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/cha/000001/000001-08-05-24.pdf).

⁷ Comm. on H. Admin., Chairman Steil Announces Referrals to Attorneys General in ActBlue Investigation, 118th Cong. (Sep. 19, 2024), <https://cha.house.gov/press-releases?ID=D3B2B5D7-5603-40D6-9DDE-5148A331B76D>.

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

Considering these findings, we request a classified briefing from your office concerning potential election interference through fraudulent donations by foreign actors. We request that your office examine and report any evidence or intelligence that links foreign actors, particularly from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China, to efforts to exploit U.S. political fundraising systems. We are particularly interested in any relevant investigations or intelligence involving ActBlue and other similar platforms regarding the use of prepaid debit, credit, and gift cards to facilitate these activities. Given the potential threat this poses to the integrity of federal elections, we request that your office contact CHA by close of business October 18, 2024, to schedule a briefing for no later than October 30, 2024

Please contact Rachel Collins, Deputy General Counsel for the Committee on House Administration, at Rachel.Collins@mail.house.gov to arrange the briefing.

Sincerely,



Bryan Steil
Chairman
Committee on House Administration



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on
Investigations

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA
JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

October 17, 2024

The Honorable Christopher A. Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigations
935 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC, 20535

Dear Director Wray:

As Chairman of the Committee on House Administration (“CHA”) and as the Ranking Member of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (“PSI”), both with broad oversight of our nation’s federal elections¹, we write to you to raise an urgent concern regarding potential illicit election funding by foreign actors. CHA has been investigating claims that foreign actors, primarily from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China, may be using ActBlue² to launder illicit money into U.S. political campaigns. The investigation has indicated that these actors may be exploiting existing U.S. donors by making straw donations without their knowledge.

Similarly, as Ranking Member of PSI, Senator Johnson wrote to the Federal Election Commission (“FEC”) in April 2023 regarding a video posted online by the O’Keefe Media Group on March 28, 2023 alleging that political donations are being made in large amounts to certain political groups without the donors’ knowledge.³ The FEC refused to confirm or deny whether it is investigating this matter.

During CHA’s investigation, evidence has emerged pointing to illegal donations being broken into many smaller donations made in the name of existing ActBlue donors without their knowledge. This practice is known as “smurfing,” where illicit actors use prepaid debit, credit, or gift cards in the names of legitimate donors to make straw donations that are virtually impossible to detect.

In October 2023, CHA sent a letter to ActBlue inquiring how it prevents contributions from foreign sources, and whether it requires the card verification value (“CVV”) associated with the credit or debit card used by the contributor when making an online contribution.⁴ ActBlue responded, explaining that it did not require contributors to provide their CVV when making an

¹ Rules of the United States House of Representatives, Rule X(k)(12).

² ActBlue is a political action committee and operates as a conduit for most Democratic candidates and committees, which means donations made through ActBlue are considered individual donations to these other groups.

³ Letter from Ron Johnson, Ranking Member, Permanent Subcomm. on Investigations, to Dara Lindenbaum, Chair, Federal Election Commission, et al., Apr. 17, 2023, <https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/services/files/6D1654EF-A0B0-4314-A1FA-F47C4178C68D>.

⁴ Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., Letter to ActBlue (Oct. 31, 2023), [4922D896A967959D5BC6530F6615E9B9.actblue-letter-final-78-.pdf \(house.gov\)](https://www.house.gov/committees/admin/4922D896A967959D5BC6530F6615E9B9.actblue-letter-final-78-.pdf).

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

online contribution.⁵ This failure to verify donor identity may have allowed foreign actors to fraudulently participate in the political process in the U.S.

Following this concerning information, CHA sent a letter to the FEC requesting it immediately initiate an emergency rulemaking process to require political campaigns to verify the CVV of donors who contribute online and a rulemaking to prohibit political committees from accepting online contributions from gift cards or credit and debit cards.⁶ CHA also introduced H.R. 9488, the Secure Handling of Internet Electronic Donations Act (“SHIELD Act”), that would prohibit political committees like ActBlue from accepting online contributions from debit or credit cards without the disclosure of the CVV and billing address associated with the card. The legislation would prohibit the acceptance of contributions from gift cards, pre-paid credit or debit cards, or gift certificates. The bill also would adopt a bipartisan legislative recommendation from the FEC to prohibit individuals from knowingly aiding or abetting someone that makes a contribution in the name of another person.

CHA also conducted a comprehensive data analysis, comparing over 200 million FEC donation records with data on age, party affiliation, number of donations, consumer purchasing power, and net worth. This study revealed several anomalies and mismatches in the FEC records, suggesting that foreign entities may be using these tactics to interfere with U.S. elections.

Disturbingly, when Ranking Member Johnson asked you during a September 25, 2024 secure briefing about election security what the FBI was doing to investigate smurfing, you seemed clueless on the issue and had no idea if the FBI was doing anything to investigate it. The other briefers—Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Director Jen Easterly—remained silent.

Based on the evidence gathered, CHA referred this matter to several state Attorneys General for further investigation, including those in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Texas, and Virginia.⁷ Additionally, we have consulted with experts in money laundering, terrorism finance, and credit card processing to better understand how these foreign actors may be exploiting our political donation systems.

In light of these findings, CHA and PSI request a classified briefing on the FBI’s findings concerning potential election interference through fraudulent donations by foreign actors. We

⁵ Regina Wallace-Jones, CEO of ActBlue, Letter to the Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., (Nov. 27, 2023), [FEE0032E48BFF011537DA5927F7E9298.response-to-house-admin-committee-11-27-23.pdf](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/ce/000001/000001/000001/000001/FEE0032E48BFF011537DA5927F7E9298.response-to-house-admin-committee-11-27-23.pdf).

⁶ Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., Letter to the FEC (Aug. 5, 2024), [AD4186C84F88B81763B784FFFAAA5938.fec-rulemaking-request-letter.pdf](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/ce/000001/000001/000001/000001/AD4186C84F88B81763B784FFFAAA5938.fec-rulemaking-request-letter.pdf) (house.gov).

⁷ Comm. on H. Admin., Chairman Steil Announces Referrals to Attorneys General in ActBlue Investigation, 118th Cong. (Sep. 19, 2024), <https://cha.house.gov/press-releases?ID=D3B2B5D7-5603-40D6-9DDE-5148A331B76D>.

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

request that the FBI examine and report any evidence or intelligence that links foreign actors, particularly from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China, to efforts to exploit U.S. political fundraising systems. We are particularly interested in any relevant investigations or intelligence involving ActBlue and other similar platforms regarding the use of prepaid debit, credit, and gift cards to facilitate these activities. Given the potential threat this poses to the integrity of federal elections, we request that the FBI contact CHA by close of business October 18, 2024, to schedule a briefing for no later than October 30, 2024.

Please contact Rachel Collins, Deputy General Counsel for the Committee on House Administration, at Rachel.Collins@mail.house.gov to arrange the briefing.

Sincerely,



Bryan Steil
Chairman
Committee on House Administration



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on
Investigations

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

October 17, 2024

The Honorable Janet Yellen
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC, 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen:

As Chairman of the Committee on House Administration (“CHA”) and as the Ranking Member of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (“PSI”), both with broad oversight of our nation’s federal elections¹, we write to you to raise an urgent concern regarding potential illicit election funding by foreign actors. CHA has been investigating claims that foreign actors, primarily from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China, may be using ActBlue² to launder illicit money into U.S. political campaigns. Our investigation has indicated that these actors may be exploiting existing U.S. donors by making straw donations without their knowledge.

Similarly, as Ranking Member of PSI, Senator Johnson wrote to the Federal Election Commission (“FEC”) in April 2023 regarding a video posted online by the O’Keefe Media Group on March 28, 2023 alleging that political donations are being made in large amounts to certain political groups without the donors’ knowledge.³ The FEC refused to confirm or deny whether it is investigating this matter.

During CHA’s investigation, evidence has emerged pointing to illegal donations being broken into many smaller donations made in the name of existing ActBlue donors without their knowledge. This practice is known as “smurfing,” where illicit actors use prepaid debit, credit, or gift cards in the names of legitimate donors to make straw donations that are virtually impossible to detect.

In October 2023, CHA sent a letter to ActBlue inquiring how it prevents contributions from foreign sources, and whether it requires the card verification value (“CVV”) associated with the credit or debit card used by the contributor when making an online contribution.⁴ ActBlue

¹ Rules of the United States House of Representatives, Rule X(k)(12).

² ActBlue is a political action committee and operates as a conduit for most Democratic candidates and committees, which means donations made through ActBlue are considered individual donations to these other groups.

³ Letter from Ron Johnson, Ranking Member, Permanent Subcomm. on Investigations, to Dara Lindenbaum, Chair, Federal Election Commission, et al., Apr. 17, 2023, <https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/services/files/6D1654EF-A0B0-4314-A1FA-F47C4178C68D>.

⁴ Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., Letter to ActBlue (Oct. 31, 2023), [4922D896A967959D5BC6530F6615E9B9.actblue-letter-final-78-.pdf \(house.gov\)](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/cead/documents/4922D896A967959D5BC6530F6615E9B9.actblue-letter-final-78-.pdf).

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

responded, explaining that it did not require contributors to provide their CVV when making an online contribution.⁵ This failure to verify donor identity may have allowed foreign actors to fraudulently participate in the political process in the U.S.

Following this concerning information, CHA sent a letter to the FEC requesting it immediately initiate an emergency rulemaking process to require political campaigns to verify the CVV of donors who contribute online and a rulemaking to prohibit political committees from accepting online contributions from gift cards or credit and debit cards.⁶ CHA also introduced H.R. 9488, the Secure Handling of Internet Electronic Donations Act (“SHIELD Act”), that would prohibit political committees like ActBlue from accepting online contributions from debit or credit cards without the disclosure of the CVV and billing address associated with the card. The legislation would prohibit the acceptance of contributions from gift cards, pre-paid credit or debit cards, or gift certificates. The bill also would adopt a bipartisan legislative recommendation from the FEC to prohibit individuals from knowingly aiding or abetting someone that makes a contribution in the name of another person.

CHA also conducted a comprehensive data analysis, comparing over 200 million FEC donation records with data on age, party affiliation, number of donations, consumer purchasing power, and net worth. This study revealed several anomalies and mismatches in the FEC records, suggesting that foreign entities may be using these tactics to interfere with U.S. elections.

Disturbingly, when Ranking Member Johnson asked Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) Director Christopher Wray during a September 25, 2024 secure briefing about election security what the FBI was doing to investigate smurfing, Director Wray seemed clueless on the issue and had no idea if the FBI was doing anything to investigate it. The other briefers—Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Director Jen Easterly—remained silent.

Based on the evidence gathered, CHA referred this matter to several state Attorneys General for further investigation, including those in Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, Texas, and Virginia.⁷ Additionally, we have consulted with experts in money laundering, terrorism finance, and credit card processing to better understand how these foreign actors may be exploiting our political donation systems. To this end, CHA looks forward to an upcoming non classified briefing with

⁵ Regina Wallace-Jones, CEO of ActBlue, Letter to the Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., (Nov. 27, 2023), [FEE0032E48BFF011537DA5927F7E9298.response-to-house-admin-committee-11-27-23.pdf](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/ce/000001/000001/000001/000001/000001/FEE0032E48BFF011537DA5927F7E9298.response-to-house-admin-committee-11-27-23.pdf).

⁶ Comm. on H. Admin., 118th Cong., Letter to the FEC (Aug. 5, 2024), [AD4186C84F88B81763B784FFFAAA5938.fec-rulemaking-request-letter.pdf](https://www.house.gov/committees/admininst/ce/000001/000001/000001/000001/000001/AD4186C84F88B81763B784FFFAAA5938.fec-rulemaking-request-letter.pdf) (house.gov).

⁷ Comm. on H. Admin., Chairman Steil Announces Referrals to Attorneys General in ActBlue Investigation, 118th Cong. (Sep. 19, 2024), <https://cha.house.gov/press-releases?ID=D3B2B5D7-5603-40D6-9DDE-5148A331B76D>.

BRYAN STEIL, WISCONSIN
CHAIRMAN

BARRY LOUDERMILK, GEORGIA
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, VIRGINIA
GREGORY F. MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA
STEPHANIE I. BICE, OKLAHOMA
MIKE CAREY, OHIO
ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO, NEW YORK
LAUREL M. LEE, FLORIDA

MICHAEL PLATT
STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Eighteenth
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
1309 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-6157
(202) 225-8281 | CHA.HOUSE.GOV

JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TERRI A. SEWELL, ALABAMA
DEREK KILMER, WASHINGTON
NORMA J. TORRES, CALIFORNIA

JAMIE FLEET
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (“FinCEN”) to discuss how the agency is attempting to combat illicit election funding.

In light of these findings, we request that the Department make available to CHA and PSI staff all Suspicious Activity Reports (“SARs”) related to ActBlue, specifically regarding fraud, money laundering, identity theft, and the use of prepaid credit, debit, and gift cards in this context.⁸ We are aware that the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability has also requested access to the SARs filed related to ActBlue and the Department is preparing these SARs for review. We are particularly interested in any relevant SARs that mention ActBlue and indicate potential interference in our elections by foreign actors from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China.

Further, we request that the Department provide a classified briefing on the abovementioned SARs and any information the Department has regarding foreign interference into our elections by foreign actors, particularly from Iran, Russia, Venezuela, and China. Due to the potential threat this poses for the security of our federal elections, we request that the Department contact CHA by close of business October 18, 2024, to schedule a briefing for no later than October 30, 2024.

Please contact Rachel Collins, Deputy General Counsel for the Committee on House Administration, at Rachel.Collins@mail.house.gov to arrange the briefing.

Sincerely,



Bryan Steil
Chairman
Committee on House Administration



Ron Johnson
Ranking Member
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on
Investigations

⁸ The Committee has jurisdiction over federal elections under House Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.