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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

May 31, 2022

Delivered via Email

The Honorable Miguel Cardona
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Cardona:

On May 3, 2022, after my first letter went unanswered, I sent you a second letter regarding the Department of Education's management of telework during COVID-19. The deadline for that response was May 20, 2022, but again, you failed to respond.

As the Biden Administration oversees the protracted infant formula crisis, it is apparent that telework in agencies is hindering the government from meeting critical mission objectives. I remain concerned that all the agencies within the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions are not working at full capacity at their duty stations.

Therefore, for the third time, I am asking for answers to the following information requests in order to determine how the Department is managing telework by June 3, 2022. There is no excuse for not providing this information, which should be easily obtained by your information technology staff.

- The rates of workers logging in through the VPN or Microsoft 360 since your Department declared maximum telework.
- A breakout of these rates by subagency or division.
- A comprehensive chart of progressive discipline actions taken once it is determined an employee is not logging in to the system.
- Details regarding the utilization of cell phones or other technology designed to assist work.

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- Any modifications made to the Department or subagencies' collective bargaining agreements to allow for remote work after re-entry is authorized.

Further, as requested in previous correspondence, I ask you provide the reentry plan for the Department nationwide and an assessment of the implementation of this plan to date. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard Burr

Ranking Member

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions