From: angelabella100
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209–AA50)
Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 4:22:26 AM

To: Office of Government Ethics

I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should:

remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional;
replace the proposed recusal requirement with a broader 5-year recusal requirement that prevents donors of cash gifts from influencing decisions, policies, or regulations affecting them or the industries in which they have substantial interests;
remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

Tell OGE to say no to optional government ethics. If we're ever going to root out corruption and hold those in power accountable for unethical practices, it won't happen by giving them the ability to opt out.

Sincerely,

Angela Bellacosa
5511 University Way NE
Seattle, WA 98105