

TOM DAVIS, VIRGINIA,
CHAIRMAN

DAN BURTON, INDIANA
CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, CONNECTICUT
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, FLORIDA
JOHN M. McHUGH, NEW YORK
JOHN L. MICA, FLORIDA
MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE, OHIO
DOUG OSE, CALIFORNIA
RON LEWIS, KENTUCKY
JO ANN DAVIS, VIRGINIA
TODD RUSSELL PLATTS, PENNSYLVANIA
CHRIS CANNON, UTAH
ADAM H. PUTNAM, FLORIDA
EDWARD L. SCHROCK, VIRGINIA
JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR., TENNESSEE
JOHN SULLIVAN, OKLAHOMA
NATHAN DEAL, GEORGIA
CANDICE MILLER, MICHIGAN
TIM MURPHY, PENNSYLVANIA
MICHAEL R. TURNER, OHIO
JOHN R. CARTER, TEXAS
WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, SOUTH DAKOTA
MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
FACSIMILE (202) 225-3974
MINORITY (202) 225-5051
TTY (202) 225-6852

www.house.gov/reform

HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA,
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TOM LANTOS, CALIFORNIA
MAJOR R. OWENS, NEW YORK
EDOLPHUS TOWNS, NEW YORK
PAUL E. KANJORSKI, PENNSYLVANIA
CAROLYN B. MALONEY, NEW YORK
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
DANNY K. DAVIS, ILLINOIS
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
WM. LACY CLAY, MISSOURI
DIANE E. WATSON, CALIFORNIA
STEPHEN F. LYNCH, MASSACHUSETTS
CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, MARYLAND
LINDA T. SANCHEZ, CALIFORNIA
C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER,
MARYLAND
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON,
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JIM COOPER, TENNESSEE
CHRIS BELL, TEXAS

BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT,
INDEPENDENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION POLICY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND THE CENSUS

Congressman Adam Putnam, Chairman



OVERSIGHT HEARING STATEMENT BY ADAM PUTNAM, CHAIRMAN

Hearing topic: *“Achieving e-Government Efficiencies at the Office of Personnel Management.”*

**Tuesday, September 23, 2003
10:00 a.m.
Room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building**

OPENING STATEMENT

Good morning and welcome to today’s hearing on achieving E-Government efficiencies at the Office of Personnel Management.

This hearing is a continuation of the aggressive oversight by this Subcommittee seeking to keep federal government agencies and decision-makers focused on meeting the key goals of the E-Government Act of 2002:

- greater accessibility to government by citizens and businesses;
- improving government efficiency and productivity; enhancing customer service;
- facilitating cross-agency coordination; and
- tangible cost savings to taxpayers through use of 21st century technology and proven “best practices” throughout the federal government.

Despite its distinction as the largest buyer of information technology in the world, the federal government has a tradition of purchasing and maintaining thousands of “stovepiped” systems that operate separately from other agencies and are not interoperable with other systems.

Great strides have been made to improve productivity and results from IT investments. However, for too long, individual agencies have pursued their own IT agendas that do not emanate from customer service or sound business processes. We recognize that simply getting a handle on what systems exist and agreeing to a unified plan to coordinate this disparate IT environment is a monumental task. But the job must be done. . . and done soon.

In March, this Subcommittee held its first hearing on E-Government, reviewing the 24 Quicksilver initiatives and initial progress resulting from the E-Government Act of

2002. At that hearing, we discovered several examples of progress being made as well as challenges that continue to be more people and management-based than technological or money-related.

Today, the Subcommittee will focus in much greater detail on five of the 24 major E-Government initiatives being implemented across the federal government consistent with the E-Government Act of 2002 and the President’s Management Agenda.

Specifically, the Subcommittee will be examining the progress being made by the federal government to implement those key initiatives intended to improve federal employee recruitment, employee training, management of payroll, management of employee data, and employee security clearance processes. These internal efficiencies are being implemented under the following five entitled initiatives:

- E-Clearance
- E-Training
- Recruitment One-Stop
- Enterprise HR Integration; and
- E-Payroll

The E-Government Act passed by Congress last year designates the Office of Management and Budget as the lead organization for all federal government IT purchasing and planning, including implementation of all government-wide E-Government initiatives. I regret that OMB is unable to testify today due to a scheduling difficulty.

Fortunately, the Office of Personnel Management has been designated by OMB as the “lead agency” for the five personnel-related initiatives. We are pleased to have as witnesses today the leadership and management associated with those initiatives to provide us with a detailed update on the progress and the challenges that we face in making these internal efficiency and effectiveness initiatives a success both internally as well as for the American taxpayer.