

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 24, 2026

The Honorable Susan Wiles  
Chief of Staff  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Ms. Wiles:

Last night, Fox News aired a government-sponsored political ad that was “Paid for by the U.S. Government”—otherwise known as the American taxpayers. The ad celebrates President Trump with a montage of photos of him and the American flag as singers repeat the words “love me” from JMSN’s song “Love Me.”<sup>1</sup> If President Trump wants people to love him, he can pay for it himself.

This is the sort of government propaganda one might expect in North Korea, not the United States of America, and it is an egregious and illegal misuse of Americans’ hard-earned tax dollars. This ad is a violation of section 718 of division E of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026, a longstanding general provision prohibiting any taxpayer funds from being used to produce government propaganda. Section 718 states that, “No part of any appropriation contained in the act or any other Act shall be used directly or indirectly, including through a private contractor, for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not heretofore authorized by Congress.” It is also apparently a violation of Federal ethics laws, including the Hatch Act.

We write to demand that you immediately take this ad off the air and appropriately reprimand and discipline the Federal employees who knowingly violated Federal law in working on and paying for this advertisement. In addition, we demand a full account and breakdown of all Federal funds used to create and air this ad.

As you are aware, this is not the first time this administration has violated anti-propaganda law<sup>2</sup>. It is unconscionable that repeated violations of appropriations law continue to occur during this Administration, and those violations underscore the failure of the Office of Management and Budget to safeguard taxpayer funding and to consistently and faithfully ensure compliance with the law. No taxpayer funding should be used to air this outrageous propaganda.

The law is not complicated. You cannot use taxpayer dollars for political advertisements.

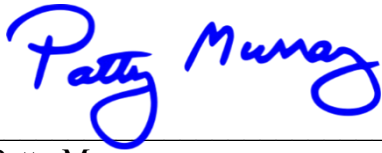
Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.politico.com/news/2026/09/24/trump-administration-midterm-tv-ads-01091499>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.reed.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/letter\\_to\\_omb\\_re\\_sec\\_715\\_violations\\_final\\_10725.pdf](https://www.reed.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/letter_to_omb_re_sec_715_violations_final_10725.pdf)

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Patty Murray  
Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Appropriations



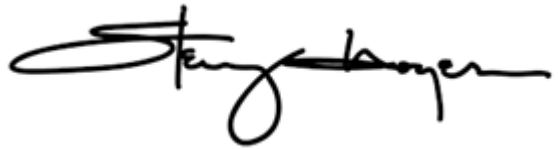
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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations



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Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Financial Services and  
General Government  
Senate Committee on Appropriations



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Steny Hoyer  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Financial Services and  
General Government  
House Committee on Appropriations

Cc: The Honorable Russell T. Vought, Director, Office of Management and Budget