From:	Cathrine Wheeler
To:	USOGE
Subject:	Re: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date:	Friday, June 17, 2022 3:26:15 PM

To whom it may concern:

The erosion of ethics and the level of corruption within our government is of grave concern to me. Efforts to strengthen ethics is of critical importance to the integrity of our democracy.

To that end, I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted.

OGE should:
1) remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional;
2) 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;
3) remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
4) place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

I hope that adding my voice to other concerned citizens can make a difference.

- Cathrine Wheeler
Registered voter in the state of Washington