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**GAO REPORT DOCUMENTS BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S NEGATIVE
IMPACT ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WORKFORCE**

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and U.S. Representative David Obey (D-WI), Senate and House Chairmen of the Labor Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, released the following statement regarding the recent report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), which shows the negative impact on Federal employees at the Department of Labor that occurred under the Bush Administration. In last year's funding bill, the Chairmen required GAO to prepare this report. A summary of the report can be found [here](#).

“The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has documented the negative impact the Bush Administration's failed policies have had on the Federal government and its workforce.

“Under the direction of this White House, the Department of Labor has increasingly attempted to move work performed by Federal employees to private contractors. GAO found that in these efforts the Department demoralized its workforce, grossly overstated savings, and did not effectively track or implement recommendations needed to improve its practices.

“We look forward to working with the Obama Administration to strengthen the Department of Labor as it undertakes the critical missions of making sure our workplaces are safe; protecting employee pensions, health benefits and rights; and providing workers with the skills they need to compete successfully in the 21st century economy.”

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