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SEA: NAPA Report on Reframing the Office of Personnel Management's Leadership Imperative Provides Critical Guidance on Improving Human Capital Management Across Government

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Bob Corsi, Interim President of the Senior Executives Association (SEA) – the nonprofit, nonpartisan professional association that has since 1980 been the voice of the career Senior Executive Service (SES) and senior career leaders across the federal government – issued the following statement regarding the National Academy of Public Administration's [release](#) of its congressionally directed study, *Elevating Human Capital: Reframing the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Leadership Imperative*.

“Nearly all good government leaders across the political spectrum agree on one thing: the Office of Personnel Management needs immediate Congressional and Administration intervention and focus, now. Unfortunately, determining how to fix our federal government's central human capital agency has been a topic of considerable controversy. With this report from the National Academy of Public Administration, Congress and Executive Branch leaders finally have a comprehensive and data driven path for improvement. Now more than ever, as our nation leans on the efficiency of our government for critical services, we must take action to preserve and strengthen the capacity of our government to respond to national needs,” SEA Interim President Corsi explained.

“While it will take time to digest all the recommendations in the report, Congress must not shy away from the challenge. We encourage lawmakers to hold hearings, work with executive personnel, and coordinate with stakeholders to use this as a blue print for the future of OPM. Congress must realize the success of human capital management within OPM is critical to the success of our government. Indeed, 22 of high risk areas on the Government Accountability Office's [High Risk List](#) are underpinned by strategic human capital challenges,” Corsi furthered.

“SEA has long advocated for modernizing the government’s central personnel agency to meet the modern needs of the American people. OPM’s archaic information technology and data systems infrastructure requires dedicated investment and resources to improve functioning across federal agencies. OPM’s core roles and functions must be clarified to allow focused and practical success. OPM must be independent of political intervention to allow the effective stewardship of the federal workforce. And Congress must play a more active role in OPM’s attainment of these goals. These are just some of the enduring issues that SEA has sought advancement on and NAPA has further elevated as necessary for the functioning of our government,” Corsi explained.

“SEA will continue seeking solutions to modernize and strengthen the capacity and capabilities of the federal workforce. There is still much work to be done, but the mere completion of this report and attempt to highlight the long standing issues plaguing OPM represent a positive step forward. It is our hope Congress and the Administration will rise to the moment and act.” Corsi concluded.

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The Senior Executives Association (SEA) is a professional association representing Senior Executive Service members and other career Federal leaders. Founded in 1980, SEA’s goals are to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and productivity of the Federal government; to advance the professionalism and advocate the interests of career Federal executives; and to enhance public recognition of their contributions.

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