United States General Accounting Office Washington, D.C. 20543

Office of the General Counsel

B-231205.2

July 5, 1989

The Honorable Pete Wilson United States Senator 2040 Ferry Building San Francisco, California 94111

Dear Senator Wilson:

This is in response to your letter dated June 6, 1989, concerning efforts to obtain retroactive interest on her Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) account. You requested our review of this matter to determine the appropriate assistance for Ms.

As you are aware, in our decision of February 3, 1989, Agency Authority to Pay Lost Earnings on Contributions to Employee Thrift Savings Plan Accounts, B-231205, we held that in the absence of express statutory authority, an agency is prohibited from paying lost earnings to an employee's TSP account. However, in that decision we supported a statutory change that would grant agencies the necessary authority.

On May 31, 1989, Representative Gary Ackerman introduced a bill, H.R. 2514, that would grant agencies the authority to make payments to employee TSP accounts for earnings lost due to administrative error. Enclosed for your information is a copy of H.R. 2514.

Hearings on H.R. 2514 have been scheduled for July 25. Enactment of this bill would provide a remedy for Ms.

I hope that you find this letter responsive to your inquiry. If you have any questions, please contact Roger Hurwitz of my staff at .

Sincerely yours,

James F. Hinchman

General Counsel

Enclosure