

March 28, 2022

The Honorable Christopher Coons, Chair
The Honorable James Lankford, Vice Chair
Select Committee on Ethics
United States Senate
220 Hart Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Request for Investigation into Senate Candidate Glenn Hurst for Failing to File Personal Financial Disclosure Form.

Dear Chairman Coons and Vice Chairman Lankford:

On February 2, 2022, I sent a letter requesting the Senate Select Committee on Ethics investigate Glenn Hurst, a candidate for the United States Senate for Iowa, for failing to file a Public Financial Disclosure Report within thirty (30) days of becoming a candidate, in violation of Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. § 101.

My previous letter has gone unanswered, so I am respectfully urging the Senate Select Committee on Ethics to take action immediately to investigate Hurst's failure to file a Public Financial Disclosure. As of today, 249 days after becoming a candidate for office and 219 days after the statutory deadline, Hurst has still failed to file a report, nor did he request an extension prior to the deadline of August 11, 2021.

With every passing day, Iowans are at a disadvantage and kept in the dark if left without the knowledge of Hurst's financial interests that could be at odds with the post he is seeking. Iowans deserve to know if there is "reason to believe" that Hurst willfully failed to file and for what reason. If found guilty, the Attorney General of the United States to impose up to \$50,000 in civil penalties.

As I mentioned in my previous letter:

Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 requires that, "[w]ithin thirty days of becoming a candidate, or May 15, whichever is later" any candidate for office "other than a . . . Member of Congress . . . shall file a [Financial Disclosure Report]."¹ A "candidate" is defined as an individual who seeks nomination for election to federal office by making expenditures or receiving contributions aggregating in excess of \$5,000.²

The Ethics in Government Act authorizes the Attorney General of the United States to seek a civil penalty of up to \$50,000 for a knowing and willful failure to file a Financial

¹ Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. § 101(c).

² *Id.* (incorporating 52 U.S.C. § 30101(2) by reference).

Disclosure Report.³ Importantly, the Act makes clear that your committee shall refer to the Attorney General “the name of any individual which [your] committee has reasonable cause to believe has willfully failed to file a report....”⁴ In addition, the Act imposes a mandatory civil penalty on any candidate who files a report after the statutory deadline.⁵

Hurst filed an official Statement of Candidacy with the Federal Election Commission on July 12, 2021.⁶ Hurst’s principal campaign committee, Glenn Hurst for Iowa, filed its Statement of Organization with the Federal Election Commission on July 12, 2021.⁷ As previously referenced, Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 requires that, “[w]ithin thirty days of becoming a candidate, or May 15, whichever is later” any “individual other than an incumbent . . . Member of Congress . . . shall file a [Financial Disclosure Report].”⁸ Under certain circumstances, candidates may request an extension, on or before the filing deadline, for a period of up to 90 days.⁹ Accordingly, federal law required Hurst to file a Financial Disclosure Report, or request an extension, no later than August 11, 2021, in order to provide the public with an accurate assessment of his personal finances.

Sincerely,



Will Rogers
1328 43rd St.
Des Moines, IA 50311

³ Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. § 104(a)(1). *See also* <https://www.ethics.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/financialdisclosure> (*Penalty for Failure to File a Report or Filing a False Report*).

⁴ Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. § 104(b).

⁵ *Id.* at § 104(d)(1).

⁶ FEC, Statement of Candidacy, (July 12, 2021), <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/S2IA00156/1524323/>.

⁷ FEC, Statement of Organization, (July 12, 2021), <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00784314/1524334/>.

⁸ Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. § 101(a).

⁹ *Id.* at § 101(g)(1).