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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 21, 2011

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Ms. Barbara Bovbjerg  
Director  
Education, Workforce, & Income Security  
Government Accountability Office  
441 G St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Ms. Bovbjerg:

I am writing to call to your attention my concerns regarding the recently released Government Accountability Office (GAO) report entitled, *GM Agreements with Unions Give Rise to Unique Differences in Participant Benefits*.

As an original requestor of this report, I am concerned that the contents of this report may be perceived as affirming the actions taken by the Department of the Treasury, the President's Auto Task Force (ATF), and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) in terminating the pension benefits of Delphi salaried retirees. I understand that in the report you did not conclude that the actions of Treasury or the PBGC were proper or improper. However, several statements standing alone would appear to indicate that GAO supports the actions of Treasury and the PBGC in reducing the pension benefits of the Delphi salaried retirees. In addition, the report fails to address outstanding questions as to the valuation of the pension fund, General Motors' (GM) so-called contractual obligations, and information on PBGC's delays in litigation.

Specifically, the report states, "Although PBGC ultimately recovered only about 6 percent of the total unfunded benefit liabilities in these plans, this ratio falls within the range of recovery ratios for other large terminated plans we reviewed." Also, "That some participants will not get the full benefits promised to them by their employer is not unusual when companies go bankrupt and leave their plans with large unfunded liabilities."

GAO does indicate that the process was unusual. The report further states, "At the same time, the role that GM and Treasury played in the events leading up to termination caused the process to be unusual in several respects," and "then, with GM's own financial condition deteriorating, Treasury's role as a shareholder led some to question the role Treasury might also be playing with respect to GM's decisions regarding Delphi and its pension plans."

Despite the continued recommendation that Treasury increase transparency, GAO's acknowledgement of Treasury's multiple roles in the bailout and bankruptcy of GM, and the additional complications presented by GM's "unusual" role, it appears as though the possibility remains for some to misperceive these findings.

Although the report is final, please keep in mind my concerns in any follow on work GAO conducts on this important issue. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please do not hesitate to contact me or Andy Sigmon ([Andrew.Sigmon@mail.house.gov](mailto:Andrew.Sigmon@mail.house.gov)) on my staff at (202) 225-6465 if I may be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress