



# Rep. Tom Emmer on HOUSE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – JANUARY 7, 2026

## Committee Hearing

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### **\*\*TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Thank you, Chairman Comr, for holding this important hearing. As I said on Monday, good riddance to Governor Walls, but he cannot escape accountability for the estimated \$9 billion in fraud. How did this happen? And where the hell has the Twin Cities media been? The Star Tribune is complicit. They have had this story for years, if you've just heard, and they've refused to report anything on it. In fact, they continue to try and cover up. Our Minnesota Republican colleagues have demanded answers and accountability for years, but have seen nothing from WALZ, his administration, our Democrat colleagues like Tina Smith, Amy Cloverar, Ilhan Omar, and Angie Craig, or the worthless Star Tribune. Thank God for President Donald J. Trump for finally bringing attention to this issue. Representative Raric, I'm going to begin with you. You've been working on this issue for years. You've spoken to the whistleblowers personally. Is that correct?

### **REP RARICK:**

That is correct.

### **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* You have an understanding that 1,000 whistleblowers running an account on X have come forward to expose fraud in Minnesota state agencies and they have been entirely ignored by Tim Walls and have even been retaliated against. Is that accurate?

### **\*\*REP RARICK:**

\*\* That is correct. Even this morning, I got another message.

### **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, in your experience, are their claims credible or are they politically motivated against Walls?

### **\*\* REP RARICK:**

\*\* They're completely credible, not politically motivated.

### **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* In fact, many of these are Walls administration employees. is correct.

### **\*\* REP RARICK:**

\*\* They are actually Democrats as well.

### **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**



\*\* Can you quickly give us one example of the retaliation these folks have been facing?

**\*\* REP RARICK:**

\*\* Yes, I can. In my opening statement, I mentioned that the most severe ones was that they would be fired with cause so they couldn't have unemployment insurance, that they would be blacklisted from all state agencies, and I would bet that it's also Hennepin County and Ramsey County, as you know, those are Democrat run, and much more.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Based on what you've learned, Representative, over the last several years, do you have any doubt that Governor Tim Walls knew about this fraud as it was occurring?

**REP RARICK:**

He absolutely knew that it was occurring.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

Thank you. The housing stability services program was estimated to cost about 2.6 million per year, but before it was shut down last October, it was on track to run about 122 million in 2025. In fact, I think they sucked 161 million out of it from the point it started in 2020 until it was finally shut down. Isn't that correct?

**REP RARICK:**

That is correct. And Joe Thompson believes that 90% of that was fraud.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

Yeah. The Quality Learning Center, as uncovered by Nick Shirley, received almost 10 million in funding. Is that accurate?

**REP RARICK:**

I believe it is.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

There are more than 80 autism centers in Minnesota under investigation. Is that true?

**REP RARICK:**

I believe it is. Yes.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

It's clear that someone is criminally complicit. You can't just let this amount of money get out of your administration over a period of seven years without knowing. There was a hearing in the state regarding the fraudulent housing stabilization program. But before that hearing, Governor Walls fired the official who was slated to testify so that they could not testify and expose what was happening under Governor Walls watch. Has Governor Walls or Attorney General Ellison fired anyone else to your knowledge? Representative? REP RARICK Not to my knowledge. And that was Eric Rumdall and his administration believes that he was not fired, but I say he was fired because it was too convenient.



**REP. TOM EMMER:**

Right. Representative Hudson, is it true that 90% of the individuals charged, regardless of what your colleague on the panel just said with his facts and figures, 90% of the individuals charged or indicted with the \$250 million Feeding Our Future COVID fraud are of Somali descent.

**REP HUDSON:**

I believe that to be correct.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

Are you aware that in a 2021 video, Mr. Ellison promised that he would obstruct his own agencies in their investigation of Somali fraud?

**HOST:**

I am very much aware of that.

**REP. TOM EMMER:**

It's no wonder that criminals in the Somali community felt they were free to steal taxpayer dollars. I'm going to ask you the same question I asked Marion. Do you have any doubt that Tim Walz knew about this fraud as it was occurring?

**REP HUDSON:**

None whatsoever. Walz and Ellison were protecting fraudsters instead of investigating them. And it was purposeful. And it's no coincidence that this is occurring largely in the Somali community. Walz made Minnesota a sanctuary state. He gave free healthcare, free college, and free licenses to illegals. And Walz looked the other way when Somali immigrants were stealing. Representative Robbins, do you have any doubt that Tim Walz knew about this fraud as it was occurring?

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