

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA,
Chairman

SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
RAUL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA
JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT
MARCIA L. FUDGE, OHIO
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN,
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
FREDERICA S. WILSON, FLORIDA
SUZANNE BONAMICI, OREGON
MARK TAKANO, CALIFORNIA
ALMA S. ADAMS, NORTH CAROLINA
MARK DESAULNIER, CALIFORNIA
DONALD NORCROSS, NEW JERSEY
PRAMILA JAYAPAL, WASHINGTON
JOSEPH D. MORELLE, NEW YORK
SUSAN WILD, PENNSYLVANIA
JOSH HARDER, CALIFORNIA
LUCY MCBATH, GEORGIA
KIM SCHRIER, WASHINGTON
LAUREN UNDERWOOD, ILLINOIS
JAHANA HAYES, CONNECTICUT
DONNA E. SHALALA, FLORIDA
ANDY LEVIN, MICHIGAN
ILHAN OMAR, MINNESOTA
DAVID J. TRONE, MARYLAND
HALEY M. STEVENS, MICHIGAN
SUSIE LEE, NEVADA
LORI TRAHAN, MASSACHUSETTS
JOAQUIN CASTRO, TEXAS



COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2176 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

VIRGINIA FOXX, NORTH CAROLINA,
Ranking Member

DAVID P. ROE, TENNESSEE
GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA
TIM WALBERG, MICHIGAN
BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
BRADLEY BYRNE, ALABAMA
GLENN GROTHMAN, WISCONSIN
ELISE M. STEFANIK, NEW YORK
RICK W. ALLEN, GEORGIA
FRANCIS ROONEY, FLORIDA
LLOYD SMUCKER, PENNSYLVANIA
JIM BANKS, INDIANA
MARK WALKER, NORTH CAROLINA
JAMES COMER, KENTUCKY
BEN CLINE, VIRGINIA
RUSS FULCHER, IDAHO
VAN TAYLOR, TEXAS
STEVE WATKINS, KANSAS
RON WRIGHT, TEXAS
DANIEL MEUSER, PENNSYLVANIA
WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV, SOUTH CAROLINA
DUSTY JOHNSON, SOUTH DAKOTA

April 12, 2019

Mr. Mark E. Dottore, Receiver
Dream Center Education Holdings
2344 Canal Rd
Cleveland, OH 44113

Dear Mr. Dottore,

The purpose of this letter is to request copies of any electronic mail documents or electronic mail archives in your possession from employees, corporate officers, directors, and owners of South University of Ohio LLC, DCEH Education Holdings LLC, South University, Dream Center Education Holdings LLC, Argosy Education Group LLC, and DC South University of Ohio LLC.

The Constitution of the United States vests in Congress the authority and responsibility to make laws and ensure that those laws are properly enforced and enacted.¹ Oversight is a constitutional responsibility of the Congress, and a core objective of the Committee on Education and Labor. The Rules of the House of Representatives vest the Committee with jurisdiction over both “[e]ducation or labor generally” and the “[o]rganization, administration, and general management of the Department of Education.”² The House Rules also vest each standing committee with oversight responsibility to analyze and evaluate conditions and circumstances within their legislative jurisdiction that may necessitate new federal legislation, and the ability to study those same conditions and circumstances “to determine whether laws and programs addressing subjects within the jurisdiction of a committee are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of Congress.”³

Federal and State courts have long recognized that Congress’ ability to request information is coterminous with its legislative jurisdiction.⁴ They have also recognized a presumption that any

¹ U.S. Const. art. I, § 1, 8.

² Rules of the House of Representatives for the 116th Cong., Rule X, Cl. 1(e). (Jan. 11, 2019).

³ *Id.* at Rule X, cl. 2.

⁴ *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135, 161 (1927) (“In actual legislative practice power to secure needed information by such means has long been treated as an attribute of the power to legislate. It was so regarded in the

Mr. Mark Dottore

April 12, 2019

Page 2

request of evidence made to serve the lawmaking and oversight functions of Congress is on its face legitimate toward the end of realizing Congress' constitutional duties.⁵

I believe communications you have in your possession will provide valuable insight into the effectiveness of consumer protections and other guardrails present in programs authorized under the *Higher Education Act of 1965* and corresponding regulations. Communications between the aforementioned parties and the Department of Education will also help illustrate how the Department of Education administers and manages these programs. At a time when the balance of federal student loans is at an historic high, this Committee has an obligation to determine if current law is sufficient to protect the federal investment in higher education.

Please provide the requested documents as soon as possible to Benjamin Sinoff, the Committee Director of Education Oversight. He can be reached at 202-225-3725 or at benjamin.sinoff@mail.house.gov if you have technical or any other questions about the request.

Sincerely,



ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
Chairman

British Parliament and in the Colonial legislatures before the American Revolution; and a like view has prevailed and been carried into effect in both houses of Congress and in most of the state legislatures.”).

⁵ See *id.* at 178 quoting *People v. Keeler*, 99 N.Y. 463, 487 (NY Ct. App. 1885) (“We are bound to presume that the action of the legislative body was with a legitimate object, if it is capable of being so construed, and we have no right to assume that the contrary was intended.”).