

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

VIRGINIA FOXX, NORTH CAROLINA, *Chairwoman*

JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
DUNCAN HUNTER, CALIFORNIA
DAVID P. ROE, TENNESSEE
GLENN "GT" THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA
TIM WALBERG, MICHIGAN
BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
TODD ROKITA, INDIANA
LOU BARLETTA, PENNSYLVANIA
LUKE MESSER, INDIANA
BRADLEY BYRNE, ALABAMA
DAVID BRAT, VIRGINIA
GLENN GROTHMAN, WISCONSIN
ELISE STEFANIK, NEW YORK
RICK W. ALLEN, GEORGIA
JASON LEWIS, MINNESOTA
FRANCIS ROONEY, FLORIDA
PAUL MITCHELL, MICHIGAN
TOM GARRETT, JR., VIRGINIA
LLOYD K. SMUCKER, PENNSYLVANIA
A. DREW FERGUSON, IV, GEORGIA
RON ESTES, KANSAS
KAREN HANDEL, GEORGIA



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

MINORITY MEMBERS:

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA,
Ranking Member

SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA
JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT
MARCIA L. FUDGE, OHIO
JARED POLIS, COLORADO
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN,
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
LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER, DELAWARE
RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY, ILLINOIS
CAROL SHEA-PORTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ADRIANO ESPAILLAT, NEW YORK

February 16, 2018

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chairwoman
House Committee on Education and the Workforce
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Foxx:

We write to request hearings before the House Education and the Workforce Committee regarding school shootings. As you know, per House Rule X, our Committee has jurisdiction over "education ... generally." More specifically, the Committee Rule 2 (a) clarifies our oversight over "school safety" and other issues.¹

Wednesday's preventable tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, resulted in the deaths of at least seventeen students and faculty. Sadly, since the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School five years ago, more than 430 people have been shot in over 230 school shootings.² Despite the sobering reality, our Committee has not had a hearing to address this public health epidemic since February of 2013.

Yesterday, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos remarked during a radio interview that "Congress needs to be holding hearings on these issues." Secretary DeVos called for us to examine this issue and "impact the future." She stated pointedly that "we have got to have an honest conversation, and Congress has to lead on this. It's their job."

Madame Chair, we are wholly in agreement with Secretary DeVos in this respect. We stand ready to lead and do our job with regard to this difficult subject. To that end, we respectfully ask that you schedule hearings to examine the issue of school shootings. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

¹ Rules of the House of Representative for the 115th Congress.

<https://rules.house.gov/sites/republicans.rules.house.gov/files/115/PDF/House-Rules-115.pdf>

² <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/02/15/us/school-shootings-sandy-hook-parkland.html>

Chairwomen Virginia Foxx

February 16, 2018

Page 2

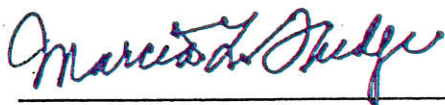
Sincerely,



ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
Ranking Member



SUZANNE BONAMICI
Vice Ranking Member



MARCIA FUDGE
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress



CAROL SHEA-PORTER
Member of Congress



ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
Member of Congress



SUSAN A. DAVIS
Member of Congress



RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY
Member of Congress



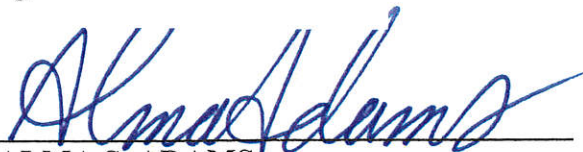
LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER
Member of Congress



GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN
Member of Congress




RAUL GRIJALVA
Member of Congress



ALMA S. ADAMS
Member of Congress



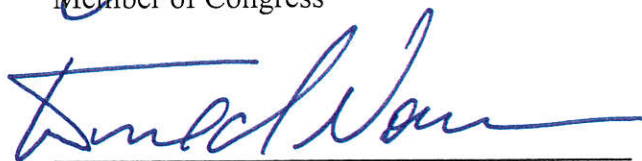
MARK DESAULNIER
Member of Congress



JARED POLIS
Member of Congress



FREDERICA S. WILSON
Member of Congress



DONALD NORCROSS
Member of Congress