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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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July 12, 2012

The Honorable John Kline  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6100

Dear Chairman Kline:

Today, former Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Special Investigative Counsel Louis Freeh issued a report<sup>1</sup> on the child sexual abuse scandal at The Pennsylvania State University. The report highlights fundamental institutional breakdowns at the University, where protecting institutional reputation took precedence over protecting children. For example, the Special Investigative Counsel concluded that, "in order to avoid the consequences of bad publicity, the most powerful leaders at the University ... repeatedly concealed critical facts relating to Sandusky's child abuse from the authorities, the University's Board of Trustees, the Penn State community, and the public at large."<sup>2</sup> These findings rightfully enrage us, but, as we all know too well, this is not the first time that we have seen child abuse go unaddressed because of other institutional priorities.

Our Committee has a duty to act. We should never wait when children's safety is at stake. And, politics and ideology must not be allowed to stand in the way of Committee action. Ensuring child abuse allegations are properly handled at an institutional level, regardless of the setting, is a difficult and challenging problem, and we should be fulfilling our obligation now to determine whether federal laws and policies effectively protect children and discourage these institutional

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the Special Investigative Counsel Regarding the Actions of The Pennsylvania State University Related to the Child Sexual Abuse Committed by Gerald A. Sandusky*, Freeh Sporkin & Sullivan, LLP (July 12, 2012). Available at, <http://thefreehreportonpsu.com/>.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 16.

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breakdowns. I have written you twice before on this request, to no avail. Congresswoman McCarthy and I offered an amendment to the recent Committee Activities Report in an attempt to require our Committee to act on these issues. That amendment was rejected by the Majority.

I ask again, in light of the Special Investigative Counsel report and our moral obligations, that the Committee convene a hearing this month to begin a significant investigation into how we can help prevent institutional failures to protect children in all settings within our jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Miller". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

**GEORGE MILLER**

Senior Democratic Member