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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

November 14, 2024

The Honorable Michael Guest
Chairman
House Committee on Ethics
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Wild
Ranking Member
House Committee on Ethics
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Guest and Ranking Member Wild:

In light of President-elect Donald Trump's announcement of his intent to nominate former Congressman Matt Gaetz to be Attorney General, we request that the House Committee on Ethics immediately preserve and transmit to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary all relevant documentation on Mr. Gaetz, including the report that your Committee was reportedly prepared to vote to release tomorrow.¹

In April 2021, you announced that the Committee was "aware of public allegations that Representative Matt Gaetz may have engaged in sexual misconduct and/or illicit drug use, shared inappropriate images or videos on the House floor, misused state identification records, converted campaign funds to personal use, and/or accepted a bribe, improper gratuity, or impermissible gift, in violation of House Rules, laws, or other standards of conduct," and as a result, the Committee had "begun an investigation and will gather additional information regarding the allegations."²

In June 2024, the Committee issued a statement noting that the Committee had "determined that certain of the allegations merit continued review" and that "the Committee has also identified additional allegations that merit review," including "allegations pursuant to Committee Rules 14(a)(3) and 18(a) that Representative Gaetz may have: engaged in sexual misconduct and illicit drug use, accepted improper gifts, dispensed special privileges and favors to individuals with whom he had a personal relationship, and sought to obstruct government investigations of his conduct."³

¹ Robert Draper, Luke Broadwater, and Maya C. Miller, *House Ethics Panel Was Set to Vote to Release Report Critical of Matt Gaetz*, THE NEW YORK TIMES (Nov. 14, 2024), <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/13/us/politics/matt-gaetz-ethics-committee-report.html>.

² U.S. House Committee on Ethics, *Statement of the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Ethics regarding Representative Matt Gaetz*, (Apr. 9, 2021), <https://ethics.house.gov/press-releases/statement-chairman-and-ranking-member-committee-ethics-regarding-representative-22>.

³ U.S. House Committee on Ethics, *Statement Regarding the Matter of Representative Matt Gaetz*, (Jun. 18, 2024), <https://ethics.house.gov/press-releases/statement-regarding-matter-representative-matt-gaetz>.

The sequence and timing of Mr. Gaetz's resignation from the House raises serious questions about the contents of the House Ethics Committee report and findings. We cannot allow this critical information from a bipartisan investigation into longstanding public allegations to be hidden from the American people, given that it is directly relevant to the question of whether Mr. Gaetz is qualified and fit to be the next Attorney General of the United States.

The Senate has a constitutional duty to provide advice and consent on presidential nominees, and it is crucial that we review all of the information necessary to fulfill this duty as we consider Mr. Gaetz's nomination. We thus request that you immediately provide to the Senate Judiciary Committee your Committee's report and all documentation related to your investigation into Mr. Gaetz's alleged misconduct. The Senate Judiciary Committee will accept this information in any format that accords with your Committee's rules, but please include all underlying source materials on which you relied, including interviews and contact information for any of these sources.

Thank you for your time and prompt consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



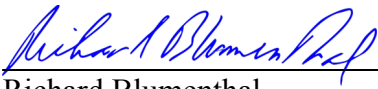
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



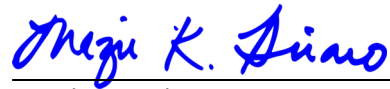
Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



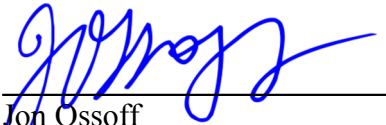
Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



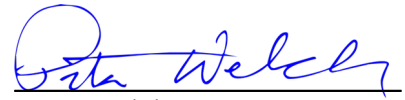
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