Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

October 7, 2021

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland,

We are deeply concerned by your recent announcement that you intend to mobilize the Department of Justice (DOJ) to address the "threat of violence against school administrators." Your decision comes after the National School Boards Association (NSBA) sent a letter to President Biden referring to parents' concerns regarding critical race theory in the classroom as "propaganda" and asserting that education leaders are being threatened by "domestic terrorism."

The First Amendment protects the right of parents across the country to make their voices heard in opposition to school mask mandates and radical anti-American critical race theory. This is not "domestic terrorism," it is protected speech. Calling upon the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to investigate parents for conflicting views on controversial teachings and policies is a massive overreach of your role as the Attorney General. Under no circumstance should your Department spend time and resources on investigations meant to intimidate American parents into silence.

Freedom of speech is one of the pillars of our country's founding. The DOJ should never be weaponized to curb this most foundational freedom. Therefore – and without any information on true threats of federal concern – we request that you immediately rescind your directive and provide a briefing to Members of Congress by October 20, 2021 on why this decision to attack parents was made.

Sincerely,

Chip Roy

Member of Congress

David B. McKinley Member of Congress

MUB.MIL

Jeff Duncan Member of Congress

Bob Good Member of Congress

¹ https://www.justice.gov/ag/page/file/1438986/download

 $^{^2 \}overline{\text{https://nsba.org/-/media/NSBA/File/nsba-letter-to-president-biden-concerning-threats-to-public-schools-and-school-board-members-} \\$

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Randy Weber

Randy Weber Member of Congress

Mary & Miller

Mary E. Miller Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzlew

Vicky Hartzler Member of Congress

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Mo Brooks Member of Congress

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Member of Congress



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Matt Rosendale Member of Congress

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Tom McClintock Member of Congress

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Jody Hice Member of Congress

Lance Gooden Member of Congress