NORMA J. TORRES 35TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

2227 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BLDG WASHINGTON, DC 20515 PHONE: (202) 225-6161 FAX: (202) 225-8671

3200 INLAND EMPIRE., SUITE 200B ONTARIO, CA 91764 PHONE: (909) 481-6474 FAX: (909) 941-1362

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES: FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

SUBCOMMITTEES: OVERSIGHT, RANKING MEMBER ELECTIONS

The Honorable Barry Loudermilk Chairman Committee on House Administration Subcommittee on Oversight 1309 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

December 17, 2024

Dear Chairman Loudermilk:

I write to express my disappointment about the activities of the Committee on House Administration Subcommittee on Oversight ("Subcommittee") under your leadership.

We are now reaching the end of the 118th Congress. There remain only three (3) session days before Congress adjourns for the year. Yet, even though the Subcommittee is charged with overseeing legislative branch operations,¹ you have virtually ignored any element of the legislative branch and Capitol security that does not further your quest to undo the bipartisan work of the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol ("Select Committee").

The security challenges facing Members of Congress are real and escalating. Recent incidents, including at an event where the public saw a near miss assassination attempt on the President-elect and Members of Congress were in attendance underscore the importance of ensuring the USCP has adequate resources and support for future events.²

Yet, on December 17, 2024, the Subcommittee released a second January 6, 2021 report that completely ignores the critical safety concerns facing the Capitol. Instead, this report defends the President-elect, spins more conspiracy theories about the January 6 Select Committee, and falsely accuses former Representative Liz Cheney of criminal liability. If this report contained factual, ground-breaking evidence, the report should not have been quietly published in the final moments of the end of the 118th Congress as a last attack on the bipartisan work of the January 6 Select Committee.

Rather than focusing on the pressing issues directly affecting legislative branch operations, the Subcommittee's most recent hearings related to a dispute between the Department of Defense and District of Columbia National Guard that was examined by the Select Committee, and which fell completely outside the Committee on House Administration's jurisdiction;³ and an active and

¹ CHA Rules Rule 17 (c)(2)

² Congresswoman Norma Torres Statement on Attack to District Office, July 24, 2024.

³ CHA Rules Rule 17 (a)(b)(c)

ongoing Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) investigation that is the subject of bizarre conspiracy theories. This has been a waste of taxpayer money and our colleagues' time; the Subcommittee does not exist to defend the President-elect and provide you with a reason to make appearances in right-wing media.

According to public records, the Subcommittee has spent over \$1,000,000.00 this Congress on these efforts, which has produced no real benefit to the public.

There is no shortage of issues that could be examined by the Subcommittee in a public hearing, even if you choose to continue ignoring House operations and other legislative branch agencies, including:

- USCP officer mental health and wellness, including the continued development of the Howie C. Liebengood Center for Wellness, especially after a recent tragic loss of a Capitol Police officer to suicide;
- The newly appointed United States Capitol Police ("USCP" or "Department") Inspector General's views on the implementation of his predecessors' recommendations and whether recommendations closed because the Department's actions were "in the spirit of" the recommendation should be reexamined;
- Preparation for the January 6, 2025, Joint Session of Congress;
- Implementation of the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act of 2022;
- USCP training, including the need for additional training facilities;
- Status of the USCP Protective Intelligence Operations Center, or PIOC; and
- The record number of threats directed toward Members of Congress.

I encourage you to address these critical, bipartisan issues in the 119th Congress. It is critical that Congress works together to keep the Capitol of the United States secure. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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Norma J. Torres Ranking Member Subcommittee on Oversight