May 5, 2020

The Honorable Adam B. Schiff
Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Devin G. Nunes
Ranking Member
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Schiff and Ranking Member Nunes:

Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure for the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI), we write to request access to the interview transcripts and other material obtained during HPSCI’s investigation of Russian influence in the 2016 Presidential election. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and hope you will choose to make this material available to the American people.

In January 2017, HPSCI began an investigation into Russian active measures to influence the 2016 Presidential election, including whether individuals associated with the presidential campaigns worked with Russia.¹ In March 2018, after interviewing 73 individuals and reviewing over 300,000 documents, HPSCI issued a report finding that the Trump campaign did not collude with Russia.² According to public reports, HPSCI voted in September 2018 to release 53 transcripts.³

We understand now that Chairman Schiff is blocking the release of these transcripts.⁴ This news, if accurate, is disturbing—especially in light of Chairman Schiff’s cries in 2019 for transparency regarding allegations that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia.⁵ For almost four years, prominent Democrat politicians and commentators alleged that President Trump colluded with Russia, with Chairman Schiff going so far as to say that he had “direct evidence” of collusion.⁶ Now that these allegations have been disproven by several investigations, the American people deserve to have transparency about why public figures such as Chairman Schiff continued to promote such wild accusations.

² Id. at 1-3.
We hope you will follow through on the September 2018 HPSCI vote and publicly release the 53 transcripts. Short of full public disclosure, however, we require access to this material for our ongoing oversight of the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation. Therefore, pursuant to HPSCI Rule 14(f), we respectfully request that HPSCI grant us access to the transcripts of all interviews conducted and other material obtained during the Committee’s investigation.

If you have any questions, please contact us directly or ask your staff to contact Judiciary Committee staff at (202) 225-6906 or Oversight Committee staff at (202) 225-5074. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
Committee on Oversight and Reform

Ken Buck  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship

Chip E. Roy  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Mike Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law

Michael Cloud  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy
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cc: The Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman, Committee on Oversight and Reform