

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 11, 2021

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Chair
Committee on House Administration
1309 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairperson Lofgren:

It has been over two months since the U.S. Capitol was attacked. To date, the Committee on House Administration, which has primary jurisdiction over the U.S. Capitol Police, the House Sergeant at Arms, the Architect of the Capitol, and the Chief Administrative Officer, has failed to exercise its oversight authority and has not held a single hearing on the issue. On the night of January 6, we spoke and agreed on the need for a bipartisan and bicameral review of the events of that day. Since then, this Committee has done nothing to move forward.

Four Committees have held six hearings on this issue. Your own personal office has issued a “report” on the events leading up to January 6th. Meanwhile our Committee has held no hearings and there are none scheduled. This is unacceptable. Given our Committee’s primary jurisdiction over the entities responsible for preparing the Capitol for January 6th and maintaining it after, we should be the ones leading on a review, not other Committees and not your personal office. Exercising our oversight authority is essential to making necessary improvements to ensure the Capitol is never again vulnerable to the kind of mob attack we saw on January 6th.

Many unanswered questions remain that the American people deserve answers to, including the direction that the Speaker of the House and her staff gave to former Sergeant at Arms, Paul Irving, leading up to and on January 6th. As you know, our preservation and production requests for the communications between Mr. Irving and other individuals on January 6th have been denied by appointees of Speaker Pelosi.

We are also concerned by recent actions of your personal office. While the Committee has taken no action since January 6th, your personal office has managed to review the social media of 147 Republicans and released a nearly 2,000-page “report” insinuating that our colleagues, who we serve and work with every day, were somehow complicit in an attack against our Capitol. These are the same colleagues we were with on the House floor on January 6th as rioters entered the Capitol and then tried to break through the doors of the House Chamber.

This “report” and its conclusions are not only wrong, they are offensive to your colleagues. It is also a questionable use of your Members’ Representational Allowance (MRA). As the Chairperson of the Committee which is responsible for overseeing the rules governing the use of the MRA, you more than anyone should know that the handbook is clear when it states “the MRA may only be used for official and representational expenses.” Using your personal office resources to investigate other Members of Congress cannot be considered to be related to your representational duties to your district.

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This “report” also contains concerning language and content that is inconsistent with the Communication Standards Commission regulations regarding the rules on Decorum and Civility. Additionally, there is a long-standing prohibition on official websites directly linking or referring to websites created or operated by a campaign or any campaign-related entity. This “report”, posted on your official personal office website, directly links to the campaign accounts of 75 candidates.

In closing, we reiterate again our request that the Committee move forward and exercise its oversight responsibility specific to the events of January 6th. Our sincere hope is that moving forward we can work together and focus on the facts surrounding that day instead of making baseless accusations and assigning motives and intentions to our fellow Members.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House Administration



Barry Loudermilk
Member
Committee on House Administration



Representative Bryan Steil
Member
Committee on House Administration