

Speaker Pelosi

Minority Leader McCarthy

Majority Leader Hoyer

Minority Whip Scalise

Majority Whip Clyburn

Conference Chair Cheney

Chairman Scott

Ranking Member Foxx

The undersigned organizations representing parents, teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, school leaders, and students have grave concerns about U.S. Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene (GA-14) being seated on the House Education and Labor Committee.

This committee has legislative and policy jurisdiction over our nation's education sector from pre-K-12 to career and higher education. We strongly believe that committee members of both parties must be able to demonstrate respect for the democratic and legislative process, the students they impact, and the systems they ultimately influence. As a citizen, candidate, and now a member of the United States Congress, Representative Greene has repeatedly demonstrated a woeful disregard for the truth and for the students the Education and Labor Committee serves. We respectfully ask that her position on this committee be rescinded immediately.

Representative Greene has repeatedly espoused unfounded claims and conspiracy theories regarding the mass shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School that are nothing short of dangerous rhetoric that only exacerbates suffering for all involved. It is unconscionable that anyone would promote the lie that these tragic events were staged, especially a Member of Congress on a committee charged with safety of students and educators. Schools across the nation continue to struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic, and many are facing daunting challenges. One of the most difficult challenges will be ensuring the physical safety of all those within the school building and doing so in a way that promotes positive mental health experiences for all involved. Teachers, principals, and other school staff have reported increased anxiety and depression throughout the pandemic. Furthermore, students and parents are exhausted from navigating the uncertainty and unknowns surrounding education. We have barely scratched the surface of the mental health and academic issues that will persist well beyond the pandemic.

As the Education and Labor Committee works to address these and the myriad of other issues facing our students, parents, and educators, both parties must work with one another on solutions based on facts. Representative Greene's continued inability to acknowledge reality will only undermine the Committee's work and inhibit the ability for bipartisanship. The education stakeholders our organizations represent are individuals who support and serve students every day. They respect the work of the Education and Labor Committee and look forward to offering their expertise to strengthen the committee's work. We view ourselves as partners in the legislative process and believe that in order for that process to be successful during the 117th Congress, Representative Greene should not be seated on the committee. Her actions and comments disqualify her from such an important position.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of our nation's children.

Endorsing organizations

Alliance for Excellent Education
Alliance for Quality Education
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Federation of Teachers
American School Counselor Association
American School Health Association
ASCD
Association of California School Administrators
Association of Young Americans (AYA)
Aurora Institute
BellXcel & Sperling Center for Research and Innovation
Center for Health and Health Care in Schools
Center for Law and Education
Common Sense
Council for Exceptional Children
Council of Administrators of Special Education
EDGE Consulting Partners
Education Reform Now
Educators for Excellence
Every Child Reading
Fizika Group, LLC
GLSEN
Healthy Schools Network
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education
Learning Forward
Magnet Schools of America
MLE Consulting, LLC
National Association for Summer Learning (NSLA)
National Association of School Nurses
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)
National Down Syndrome Congress
National Science Teaching Association
PDK International
Sandy Hook Promise
School Social Work Association of America
School-Based Health Alliance
SHAPE America
Society of State Leaders of Health and Physical Education
Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children

TESOL International Association
The Advocacy Institute
The American Counseling Association