

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 12, 2021

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane, SW
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable Christopher Wray
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535

The Honorable Avril Haines
Director
Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Washington, DC 20511

Secretary Mayorkas, Director Wray, and Director Haines:

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (NDAA) requires the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, to provide Congress a report on domestic terrorism.¹ This report must include a strategic intelligence assessment of domestic terrorism in the United States, a description of certain activities of the Federal government to address this threat, information on the FBI's threat prioritization nationally and in each FBI field office, and comprehensive qualitative and quantitative data on all attempted and completed incidents of domestic terrorism. The report was due to Congress in June 2020 and yet remains outstanding today. We write to urge that you fulfill this requirement as soon as possible and no later than March 1, 2021.

The January 6, 2021 attack on the United States Capitol highlighted the urgent threat of rising domestic violent extremist and anti-government violence. Yet Congress and the American public lack reliable government data regarding the scope and extent of the threat, as well as a clear and thorough understanding of how the Federal government is responding. The Government Accountability Office, the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism at the University of Maryland, and the Transactional Records Clearinghouse, among others, have provided their own data and analyses on domestic terrorism and related trends. Though helpful, each organization provides its own numbers and uses its own methodology and definitions, limiting the ability of the American public to understand and of Congress to meaningfully address the threat. For this reason, Congress included and the President signed into law the NDAA reporting requirement.

¹ National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Sec. 5602.

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You have each publicly committed to transparency with Congress and, ultimately, with the American public. As we confront the domestic terrorism threat during this critical time in our country, it is critical that you fulfill your commitments and submit the domestic terrorism report required by the NDAA as soon as possible, and no later than March 1, 2021.

Sincerely,



Gary C. Peters
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs



Rob Portman
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs