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Dr. Genevieve Siegel-Hawley
Professor of Educational Leadership
Virginia Commonwealth University
1015 W. Main St.
Richmond, VA 23220

Dear Dr. Siegel-Hawley:

Thank you again for testifying at the May 14, 2025, Committee on Education and Workforce subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education hearing titled "Reimagining Education: How Charter Schools Are Closing Gaps and Opening Doors."

Enclosed are additional questions submitted by Committee members following the hearing. Please provide a written response no later than October 17, 2025, for inclusion in the hearing record. Responses should be sent to Eli Mitchell (eli.mitchell@mail.house.gov) of the Committee staff.

We appreciate your contribution to the work of the Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Kiley".

Kevin Kiley
Chairman
U.S. House Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education
Committee on Education and Workforce

**Questions for the Record from
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT**

**Committee on Education and Workforce
Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee hearing entitled
*“Reimagining Education: How Charter Schools Are Closing Gaps and Opening Doors”***

**Wednesday, May 14, 2025
10:30 A.M.**

**Representative Robert C. “Bobby” Scott (D-VA)
Questions for Dr. Siegel-Hawley**

1. You previously conducted research about the policies of the first Trump Administration.
 - a. Based on the policies proffered at that time, what can we expect from the current Trump Administration?
 - b. So far in this Administration, there is a concerted, albeit illegal, effort to dismantle the Department of Education and what the GOP is referring to as “returning education to the states.” As part of that effort, the Administration has significantly defunded the Institute of Education Sciences responsible for conducting education research and the Office of Civil Rights responsible for enforcing federal civil rights laws and ensuring equal access in education, among many other offices integral to educating our nation’s youth. In addition, the Budget Reconciliation bill that the Majority intends to bring to the House floor includes a tax scheme to fund private schools with taxpayer dollars. What effect will these actions have on education across America and on our students moving forward?
 - c. What should the federal government’s role in education be?
2. The Supreme Court recently heard oral arguments in the case of *St. Isadore v. Drummond*, the case about whether Oklahoma may permit the first religious, publicly funded charter school. Is allowing funding to go to religious public charter schools a good or bad idea and why?
3. Charter schools that receive federal funds under the Charter School Program are supposed to use lottery-based admissions. Despite this, are charter schools able to engage in practices that effectively select or increase the students or types of students they wish to have, either before the school year starts or even after students have started school? If so, how do they do this?
4. Some charter school focus on positive student outcomes combined with strict structure and discipline; these are sometimes referred to as “no excuses” schools. Is there evidence that sheds light on student and family experiences at these schools?

**Question for the Record from
REPRESENTATIVE SUZANNE BONAMICI**

Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)

Question for Dr. Genevieve Siegel-Hawley

1. Charter schools were originally developed as laboratories of innovation, intended to identify successful education practices to be implemented in traditional public schools. Please elaborate on that history and explain whether charter schools lived up to that intent and if charter schools today are fulfilling this mission.