



# Democracy Reform Task Force

## Unanswered Letters from House of Representatives to Trump Administration

March 2017

- 1) **March 1, 2017** – [Letter](#) from House Democrats to Secretary of State Tillerson expressing concern about proposed cuts to the State Department budget by the Trump Administration.
- 2) **March 1, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Representative Alan Lowenthal, and Dems to Secretary of State to push the government of Vietnam to respect the rights of its own citizens by allowing for religious freedom, freedom of the press, and free speech and assembly.
- 3) **March 1, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Representatives Donald Norcross, and David McKinley to President Trump in detailing national infrastructure priorities to rebuild our country and create jobs.
- 4) **March 2, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Ranking Member Cummings to Attorney General Sessions asking questions regarding his communications with the Russian ambassador and calling for his resignation.
- 5) **March 2, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Deutch and other co-chairs of the Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Anti-Semitism to President Trump urging him to prepare and implement a comprehensive strategy to combat anti-Semitism.
- 6) **March 2, 2017** – [Letter](#) from House Judiciary Democrats to FBI Director James Comey and U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Channing Phillips calling for criminal investigation of Jeff Sessions regarding his comments to the Senate Judiciary Committee denying that he spoke with Russian official.



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- 7) **March 2, 2017** – [Letter](#) led by Ranking Members Susan Davis and Bobby Scott to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos regarding the Administration's decision to undo protections for transgender students.
- 8) **March 3, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. John Lewis, Sen. Sherrod Brown to Secretary of Transportation to continue their efforts to encourage the federal government to implement safety improvements to busses in America.
- 9) **March 3, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Tim Ryan to President Trump to convene a meeting with Administration and General Motors officials to find an agreement that will prevent the termination of GM Lordstown's third shift.
- 10) **March 3, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Kaptur, Rep. Bishop, Rep. Huizenga and other members to the Trump Administration calling for the release of an Army Corps of Engineers evaluation intended to determine the possibility of establishing preventative measures against an invasion of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes.
- 11) **March 6, 2017** – [Letter](#) from House Judiciary Democrats to White House Counsel Donald McGahn II and FBI Director James Comey, asking them to provide information about contacts between the White House and Department of Justice regarding FBI review of Russian government influence on the U.S. presidential election.
- 12) **March 7, 2017** – Letter from Ranking Member Grijalva to Lt. General Todd Smonite of the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the NEPA Review Process for the Florida Power and Lights Construction Projects (Biscayne Bay).
- 13) **March 7, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Tim Ryan and other Democrats to President Trump to include full funding of \$9.3 billion to fight the opioid and prescription drug epidemic in the U.S.



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- 14) **March 7, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Langevin and Rep. Thompson to President Trump to highlight the important role career and technical education can play in bringing American workers into the 21st Century and closing the skills gap.
- 15) **March 7, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Kaptur, Rep. Tim Ryan and other members to President Trump urging action on America's multiemployer pension crisis.
- 16) **March 7, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Foster and other Dems to President Trump, urging him to preserve the Iran Nuclear Deal.
- 17) **March 7, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Ranking Member Grijalva to Lt. General Todd Smonite of the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the NEPA Review Process for the Florida Power and Lights Construction Projects (Biscayne Bay).<sup>1</sup>
- 18) **March 8, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Stephen Lynch and House Democrats to President Trump asking he reconsider his federal hiring freeze for veteran job applicants.
- 19) **March 8, 2017** – Letter from Ranking Member Grijalva to Secretary Zinke of the DOI regarding Overturning National Monuments.
- 20) **March 8, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Ranking Cummings, Senator Warren, and Senator Carper to Deputy White Counsel Passantino regarding Jared Kushner's potential conflicts of interest.
- 21) **March 8, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Karen Bass and other House Dems to Homeland Security Secretary Kelly expressing deep concern and opposition to DHS immigration enforcement plan and urging its reconsiderations.

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<sup>1</sup> Received a letter of acknowledgement but not a response to the point of the letter.



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- 22) **March 8, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Homeland Security Ranking Member Thompson, Rep. Vela and Rep. Payne Jr. to Homeland Security Secretary Kelly expressing concern about his comments on DHS’s consideration of separating children from their parents at the border.
- 23) **March 9, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. DelBene and other Dems to HHS and MedPAC urging them to look into improving access to genetic testing and patient outcomes through precision medicine.
- 24) **March 10, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Tom O’Halloran and Rep. Gallego to Secretary of Defense requesting information regarding President Trump’s travel expenses and the demands places upon the Department of Defense.
- 25) **March 10, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Garamendi and other CA Congressional delegation members to President Trump asking him to “rapidly declare a Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster for the State of California as a result of an atmospheric river storm system that affected the State of California from January 18 through January 23, 2017.”
- 26) **March 10, 2017** – [Letter](#) from House Foreign Affairs Committee Members to President Trump asking that he maintain and prioritize the appointment of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism at the U.S. State Department.
- 27) **March 10, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Ranking Members Bobby Scott and Patty Murray to Education Secretary DeVos regarding the revision of templates for state plans to implement the Every Student Succeeds Act.
- 28) **March 13, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Ranking Member Pallone & Energy Commerce Democrats to EPA Inspector General Elkins requesting an investigation into policies and procedures conflicts of interest and potential violations by Director Pruitt.



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- 29) **March 13, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Ranking Members John Yarmuth and Richard Neal to President Trump urging him to not default on the United States' debt obligations.
- 30) **March 13, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Ellison and other Democrats to Attorney General Sessions asking for the Department of Justice to investigate the recent murders of trans women around the country as hate crimes.
- 31) **March 13, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Price to White House urging them to support a two-state solution.
- 32) **March 14, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Kilmer to President Trump to increase the purchasing power of federal Pell Grants to make college more affordable.
- 33) **March 15, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Reps. Demings, Murphy and Soto to the White House Budget Director outlining regional transportation infrastructure priority projects in Central Florida.
- 34) **March 15, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Lee and Rep. Ros-Lehtinen to President Trump urging the administration to continue the longstanding American commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS, both in the United States and abroad.
- 35) **March 15, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Annie McLane Kuster to Secretary of Defense James Mattis seeking additional information on the reports that as many as 30,000 Marines are being investigated as part of their involvement in a distributing and commenting on obscene photos of female Marines.
- 36) **March 16, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Education and Workforce Committee. to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos today asking for more information about the cause and scope of the outage of the Internal Revenue Services' Data Retrieval Tool.



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- 37) **March 16, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Nadler to President Trump expressing concerns over reports in the Forward that Sebastian Gorka, a top counter-terrorism advisor in the Trump Administration, is a member of the far-right Hungarian group known as Historical Vitézi Rend.
- 38) **March 17, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Pascrell and Rep. Reichert to President Trump requesting the President illuminate the White House in blue on the night of May 15, 2017 in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day.
- 39) **March 17, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Financial Services Committee. to Ed Hugler, Acting Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), expressing opposition to the DOL's proposed 60-day delay of its fiduciary rule.
- 40) **March 17, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Representative Charlie Crist to President Trump urging the administration to create everglades restoration infrastructure taskforce.
- 41) **March 17, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Reps. Rosen, Titus, and Kihuen to DHS Secretary Kelly urging the Trump administration to fully fund the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).
- 42) **March 21, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Darren Soto to President Donald Trump asking him to exempt the Social Security Administration from the federal hiring freeze.
- 43) **March 21, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Ro Khanna to the Defense Department Inspector General asking for an investigation into the business practices of aerospace company, TransDigm Group.



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- 44) **March 22, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Oversight and Government Reform Committee to White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus, FBI Director James Comey, Department of Defense Secretary James Mattis, and Director of National Intelligence Daniel Coats requesting information about Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn's communications with and payments from Russian, Turkish, or other foreign sources, including the Kremlin-backed media outlet RT.
- 45) **March 24, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. John Delaney to the to President Trump, Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and the White House's Chief Economic Advisor Gary Cohn urging the Trump Administration to focus on pairing infrastructure and tax reform.
- 46) **March 24, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Alcee Hastings to Secretary John Kelly calling for an extension to Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian Nationals.
- 47) **March 24, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Keith Ellison to President Trump regarding the disposition study of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam.
- 48) **March 27, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Vincente Gonzalez to President Trump urging him to take action on deported veterans.
- 49) **March 27, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Pocan and others to President Trump demanding he apologize for repeatedly spreading a lie that President Obama wiretapped Trump Tower.
- 50) **March 27, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Education and Workforce Committee to Secretary DeVos asking the Department to take action to help alleviate complications for students impacted by the current outage of the Internal Revenue Service's Data Retrieval Tool.



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- 51) **March 28, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Beatty to the Department on Housing and Urban Development requesting that they study the possible impact of community surveys to combat homelessness.
- 52) **March 28, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Lawrence and Rep. Conyers to Secretary Carson following his recent visit to Detroit. The letter expresses concerns regarding President Trump's proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget cuts to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- 53) **March 28, 2017** – [Letter](#) from Rep. Lieu to Secretary Mattis regarding recent reports of significant increases in civilian casualties from U.S. airstrikes in Syria and Iraq.