

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 29, 2015

Ms. Donna King
Chairman
National Panhellenic Conference
3901 West 86th Street, Suite 398
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Dear Ms. King,

We recently read with interest that your organization has hired a team of lobbyists, including former Senator Trent Lott, to lobby on your behalf for Representative Salmon's legislation that would undermine our efforts to make campuses safer. We are deeply concerned that this legislation will not keep campuses safe and may actually further exacerbate the issue of sexual assault facing our students. We are disappointed to hear that your organization is working in support of it. A recent study by the Association of American Universities of over 150,000 students, found only 25 percent of students who were sexually assaulted in college reported the crime to campus authorities or police. We are confident you are aware that sexual assault is the most underreported violent crime and that increasing reporting is an essential first step towards reducing these assaults.

Throughout our many visits to campuses throughout the country we have met with Fraternity and Sorority members to discuss the issues surrounding campus sexual assault. In those discussions we were left with the impression that campus organizations were interested in solving this problem in a way that encourages reporting, supports victims and holds schools accountable for failure to act to protect students. Representative Salmon's bill addresses none of those priorities. The bill would instead stifle reporting and force victims down a one size fits all pipeline against their wishes.

The legislation would require victims of sexual assault to report the offense to the criminal authorities if they wish for a campus disciplinary process to proceed. Campus authorities would be required to wait until a final disposition of a criminal process before moving forward on a campus disciplinary process to expel a student. We know that not all victims feel comfortable going to the police and that when they do, sometimes the judicial proceedings can take months or even years, if they proceed at all. Too often, cases are left open for years. Simply put, this legislation forces victims to make the incredibly difficult decision of reporting a sexual assault to the police before the campus can take any action. This standard would be unique for these individuals; victims of a physical assault or robbery would still be able to access the campus administrative process without a police report. Under the legislation, those accused of sexual assault would face no potential on-campus consequences unless a victim reports to police, allowing the accused the free ability to attend classes, live in college dormitories and otherwise go about their regular activities.

As we are sure you are aware, numerous organizations that work with sexual assault survivors on a daily basis have publicly said that this legislation will be dangerous and will stifle reporting of sexual assaults to both campus authorities and the police. We are hopeful that you will join us in supporting legislation that will have a positive impact on survivors while also working to ensure the campus disciplinary process is fair for all parties involved. We welcome a discussion with you concerning the Campus Accountability and Safety Act, the bipartisan legislation that we introduced earlier this year. Our legislation gives survivors options for reporting to encourage disclosures of this underreported crime and make all students safer. We encourage you to consider the real consequences of Representative Salmon's legislation and ask that you commit to working for legislation that will increase reporting and protect all students. We stand ready to work with your organization to ensure all students can feel safe and supported on their college campuses.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
U.S. Senator

Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senator

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 29, 2015

Mr. Brad Beacham
Executive Director
Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.
9 North Lewis Street
P.O. Box 1869
Lexington, VA 24450

Dear Mr. Beacham,

We recently read with interest that your organization has hired a team of lobbyists, including former Senator Trent Lott, to lobby on your behalf for Representative Salmon's legislation that would undermine our efforts to make campuses safer. We are deeply concerned that this legislation will not keep campuses safe and may actually further exacerbate the issue of sexual assault facing our students. We are disappointed to hear that your organization is working in support of it. A recent study by the Association of American Universities of over 150,000 students, found only 25 percent of students who were sexually assaulted in college reported the crime to campus authorities or police. We are confident you are aware that sexual assault is the most underreported violent crime and that increasing reporting is an essential first step towards reducing these assaults.

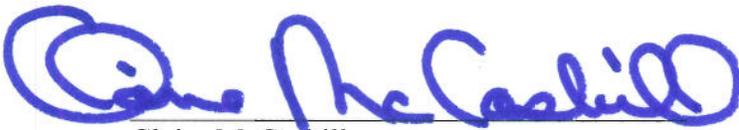
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U.S. Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senator

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 29, 2015

Mr. Jeffrey Busch
National President
Alpha Tau Omega
One North Pennsylvania Street
12th Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Busch,

We recently read with interest that your organization has hired of a team of lobbyists, including former Senator Trent Lott, to lobby on your behalf for Representative Salmon's legislation that would undermine our efforts to make campuses safer. We are deeply concerned that this legislation will not keep campuses safe and may actually further exacerbate the issue of sexual assault facing our students. We are disappointed to hear that your organization is working in support of it. A recent study by the Association of American Universities of over 150,000 students, found only 25 percent of students who were sexually assaulted in college reported the crime to campus authorities or police. We are confident you are aware that sexual assault is the most underreported violent crime and that increasing reporting is an essential first step towards reducing these assaults.

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U.S. Senator

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 29, 2015

Mr. Buddy Cote'
Chairman
North-American Interfraternity Conference
3901 West 86th Street, Suite 390
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Dear Mr. Cote',

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 29, 2015

Mr. Larry Stanton Wiese
Executive Director
Kappa Alpha Order
Kappa Alpha Order at Mulberry Hill
115 Liberty Hall Road, Lexington, Virginia 24450

Dear Mr. Wiese,

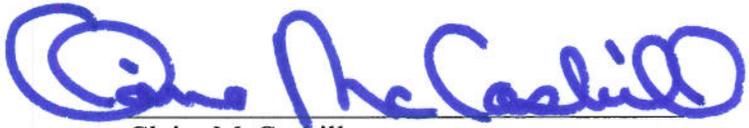
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