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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

A. JAY KHOSLA, STAFF DIRECTOR
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May 3, 2018

The Honorable Caroline C. Hunter, Chair
The Honorable Ellen L. Weintraub, Vice Chair
Federal Election Commission
1050 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20463

Dear Chair Hunter and Vice Chair Weintraub,

The Senate Finance Committee is charged with administration of matters relating to taxation, including oversight of tax exempt organizations. Political advocacy activity is governed by both Federal Election Commission (FEC) rules and authoritative statutes, as well as the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Entities subject to sections 501(c)(4) and 527 of the IRC operate at the intersection of these rules. In light of ongoing inquiries into Russian involvement in U.S. elections, it is incumbent on lawmakers and regulators to uphold our campaign finance laws and examine whether more must be done to ensure the integrity of the electoral process.

In February of 2018, as Ranking Member of the Finance Committee, I initiated an inquiry into the National Rifle Association's (NRA's) campaign finance practices following press reports that raised questions about the organization's relationship with certain Russian actors. It is my understanding that the FEC is also looking into these matters. A copy of the subsequent correspondence with NRA is attached for your use in any ongoing or future inquiries, regulatory action, legislative recommendations, or reports.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact the Committee's Democratic investigations staff at 202-224-4515. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,



Ron Wyden
Ranking Member

cc: Hon. Orrin G. Hatch, Chairman