

Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

February 1, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

We write to you today at the beginning of Black History Month about the disturbing trend of bomb threats and violence against our nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). For the last month, at least 17 of the nation's 100 HBCUs have been forced to repeatedly lock down their campuses and shelter in place until law enforcement can investigate and assure the safety of students, staff, and the surrounding local communities. Such acts of intimidation, which threaten both the safety and education of students enrolled at HBCUs, are of grave concern and we must work to protect these remarkable institutions and their students.

We ask that you provide a briefing to interested congressional offices to discuss the efforts the Department of Justice is taking to coordinate federal and local law enforcement efforts in the investigation of these ongoing threats as well as the direct support you are providing to all our nation's HBCUs to keep their campuses and communities open and safe. Please provide a response no later than Thursday, February 3.

Sincerely,



Robert C "Bobby" Scott
Chairman
U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor



Patty Murray
Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Health,
Education, Labor and Pensions



Virginia Foxx
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor



Richard Burr
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Health,
Education and Pensions

Cc: The Honorable Miguel Cardona, U.S. Secretary of Education