

We understand that Mr. Linick may have received the initial report noting his improper usage of personal email as early as late 2019 or early 2020, and it is the Department's understanding that he never shared the written report with any person at the State Department (including in his own office), despite repeated requests by Department leadership for a copy of the report. Likewise, he never informed State Department leadership that the report found that he did not comply with OIG email practices. Allowing the head of an investigated office to determine the manner and scope of the release of a report that addresses his own conduct is inappropriate, which is presumably why CIGIE's own guidelines would have required the results of a CIGIE review to be shared with appropriate officials in his supervisory chain.

OIG Launches Questionable Parallel Investigation Under a Possible Conflict of Interest. At the same time that the DOD IG was conducting its review, Mr. Linick reportedly opened a parallel investigation of other State Department employees for the same potential misconduct for which his own office was being investigated. See Kylie Atwood, Fired State Department inspector general was cleared in leak inquiry prior to his removal, sources say, CNN, May 28, 2020. This decision, if accurately reported, seems unusual because the September 2019 media leak was specifically attributed to "two government sources involved in carrying out the investigation" (emphasis added), not to Department employees who may have been fact witnesses (and were clearly not responsible for "carrying out" any investigation).

Mr. Linick's decision also raises the question of whether this parallel investigation was intended to divert attention from the DOD IG's own investigation into the State OIG. Indeed, public reporting suggests that State OIG was continuing its own investigations of other Department employees before the DOD OIG report was even finalized. See *id.* It should have been obvious to Mr. Linick that launching a parallel investigation into the same misconduct for which he and his own office were being investigated created both a real and apparent conflict of interest and risked interfering with the DOD OIG investigation into his own office. An investigator who is still working to clear his or her own name has a motive to shift the blame to another person.

Inappropriate Contacts with OIG Staff in an Apparent Attempt to Obtain Department Records, Contrary to Instruction. When Mr. Linick was removed from his position on May 15 and placed on administrative leave, his physical access was terminated, and he was clearly instructed by Department officials not to contact OIG staff members about official matters or return to his former office, without authorization by Department officials, who would facilitate any such contacts.

However, it has come to the Department's attention that he has violated these instructions on multiple occasions while he was on administrative leave. For example, we understand that, in the days before his Congressional testimony, he sent a text message to the Deputy Inspector General, Diana Shaw, requesting a copy of the DOD IG report. Without informing her own chain of command, we understand that Ms. Shaw then contacted the DOD Office of Inspector General to request a copy of the report on Mr. Linick's behalf. It is not clear what Mr. Linick's motivation was, but it was not his decision (nor his former Deputy's) to make this request for release given that he was, at the time, on administrative leave pursuant to the President's decision with a new Acting Inspector General in place. We under-

stand that Mr. Linick has repeatedly returned to his former office without seeking authorization from his Department superiors, also contrary to the clear instructions he received. Mr. Linick should follow the same rules that apply to other government officials who are placed on administrative leave in such circumstances; he is not entitled to a different set of rules.

A Pattern of Leaks Continues. Even though no one at the State Department other than Mr. Linick appears to have had a copy of the DOD Inspector General's report (not even his Deputy) before June 2, 2020, CNN ran a story on May 28, 2020 that the DOD OIG report had exonerated Mr. Linick of leaking. Kylie Atwood, Fired State Department inspector general was cleared in leak inquiry prior to his removal, sources say, CNN, May 28, 2020. These reports raise additional concerns as to this disturbing pattern of leaks, further warranting CIGIE review.

Last fall, the Department had serious concerns with the leak of a draft State Department OIG report and recommended that review by CIGIE was the appropriate step for an independent review. Unfortunately, Mr. Linick's failure to follow through on that course—or to seek agreement from his reporting chain on any change in course—has only confirmed the Department's recommendation and has raised even further concerns about Mr. Linick's judgment and conduct.

Therefore, we ask CIGIE to investigate not only the original unauthorized disclosure, but the conduct described in this letter.

Sincerely,

BRIAN BULATAO,

Under Secretary for Management,

U.S. Department of State.

BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, as Americans, our understanding of history has a tremendous impact on our sense of who we are and where we are headed. That is why it is so important for Americans to have a good understanding of our history—all of our history.

Slavery is a great stain on our country's history, and its legacy impacts us yet today. We must not flinch from recognizing the suffering inflicted on so many Americans, contrary to our highest ideals as a nation.

Still, our Nation is unique in human history in that it was founded not on the basis of some sort of common ethnic identity but on certain enduring principles that are the equal heritage of all Americans. Those principles are best articulated in the simple but eloquent words of the Declaration of Independence. I don't have to put quotes around these because everybody knows these words: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all people are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Our patriot forefathers concluded that these principles were worth fighting for, and, indeed, they took up arms. The odds were stacked against them, and they happened to know that, but they, nonetheless, risked everything because they believed so deeply in those fundamental truths that were stated in the Declaration of Independence.

Among those who risked life and limb for our Nation's founding principles were between 5,000 and 10,000 Americans of African descent who volunteered to serve as soldiers and sailors during the American Revolution.

Their patriotic sacrifices at the very beginning of our Nation contributed immeasurably toward laying the foundation of the freedoms we enjoy today.

The civil rights movement was later able to build on that solid foundation by calling on America to, as Dr. King said, "live out the true meaning of its creed." Dr. King was absolutely right in pointing out that Black Americans have every right to fully claim our shared heritage as Americans, having helped build and shape American institutions and society from the beginning, as shown by the very sacrifice they made in the Revolutionary War. This proud history is part of who we are as Americans, but it is too little understood and, hence, fully not appreciated.

That is why I was proud to colead legislation that authorized the establishment of a National Liberty Memorial on the National Mall to honor the underappreciated contributions of Black Revolutionary War veterans and patriots, as they are.

I am proud to say that Iowa can claim at least one of those patriots, Cato Mead, who was born in Connecticut and is listed in Revolutionary War pension court records as a "free person of color" who lived out his twilight years in Southeastern Iowa. He is buried in the Montrose Cemetery in Montrose, IA.

The National Mall Liberty Fund is now in the process of raising money for an environmental assessment to complete final site selection for this very important memorial.

Now, more than ever, Americans need this monument as a tangible reminder that despite the lingering legacy of slavery, the promise of liberty and equality is a shared heritage of all Americans from the founding generation to this very day.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORONAVIRUS

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, States across this country, including New Hampshire, are beginning to reopen after this pandemic, although, the pandemic isn't really over. The ongoing economic and public health fallout from COVID-19 continues to affect families and businesses in my State of New Hampshire and across this country.

Every day, community leaders, public health professionals, and frontline workers tell me about what they are facing. They have raised concerns

about the massive reduction in local tax revenue and the very difficult decisions that will soon need to be made if Federal assistance doesn't arrive soon.

I have heard from teachers and school administrators about the challenges they have encountered trying to educate their students during the pandemic and the difficulties they are anticipating as they begin to plan for the school year coming in September.

The shift to remote learning has exposed the disparities in broadband access across New Hampshire and across this country that leaves behind many students and makes it extremely difficult for teachers to deliver a quality education, especially for students with disabilities.

So many small businesses, while they are very grateful for the Paycheck Protection Program and the loans and grants that have been made available through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, are telling me it is not enough; that revenues for many of these small businesses are still at unsustainable lows, particularly for those in tourism, entertainment, and hospitality—in New Hampshire, tourism is our second largest industry—and that they need help if they are going to weather this storm.

So I can't understand why this body and why Majority Leader MCCONNELL doesn't feel a sense of urgency to pass legislation that will continue to help Americans during this time of crisis.

It has been more than 1 month since the House of Representatives sent to us the Heroes Act to continue to provide assistance to Americans who are in need. In the time since, we have not taken up any proposal that would provide comprehensive relief for the sectors of our economy that are still hurting.

We just can't wait until the end of July, when we know that there will be so many families, workers, and businesses across the country who will be in an even more dire position than they are now.

Americans are urging Congress to act, and we should work together in a bipartisan way, just as we did with the first three—really, four, if you count the second count of the small business assistance. Those four bills all passed with strong bipartisan votes. Now it is time for us to do that again, to provide Americans with the relief they so desperately need.

Congress has taken some very important bipartisan steps to provide assistance to the Nation, but the conversations I have had with Granite Staters on the frontlines are a very powerful reminder of how much work still lies ahead.

We should provide assistance for our hospitals and healthcare providers, especially for nursing homes and long-term care facilities because, in New Hampshire, they have accounted for more than 70 percent of COVID-19 deaths, and across the country, for a very high percentage.

We need to provide support to all of our essential workers who are still on the frontlines getting out there every day, despite the health risks; that includes grocery store workers, healthcare workers, and first responders who are sacrificing so much for our health and safety.

We should provide investments in our Nation's infrastructure, like broadband, to make sure we have better access to telehealth and education opportunities.

We should provide support for sectors of our economy that have taken major losses, like the clean energy sector, which has lost more than 600,000 jobs over the past few months.

We should provide help for food and rental assistance for those who have lost income and are struggling to make ends meet.

We should support the Postal Service so it can continue to serve our communities and small businesses. In New Hampshire, we have so many small towns that depend on the Postal Service for prescription drugs. Families in those towns depend on the Postal Service for prescription drugs and to communicate with the outside world. Especially now, when so many people are still feeling so isolated, they need to know they can count on the Postal Service and that it is not going to get into a financial crisis this summer.

Finally, we need to support our States and our local communities. They have been on the frontlines fighting this pandemic. As the cost of COVID-19 response efforts continue to rise, mayors, town administrators, and county officials are all grappling with whether they are going to have to lay off first responders, firefighters, police, teachers, and municipal workers—all of those people who continue to provide services in our communities and without whom people are going to face even more dire consequences. States and communities need help now. They should not have to cut essential services and frontline workers.

In Congress, we must also provide additional support to small businesses. PPP, the Paycheck Protection Program, by any measure, despite some of the challenges, has been the most significant small business assistance program in our Nation's history. It has delivered over \$500 billion in aid in a very short time.

I am proud to have worked with a bipartisan group of colleagues to offer that provision, but when we first sat down to design it just over 3 months ago, none of us had any concept of the magnitude of this crisis or what would be its duration. Since then, we have learned just how devastating this disease is and how terribly difficult it is to defeat.

I have heard from so many businesspeople in New Hampshire who took a PPP loan. They used the proceeds just as we had intended: They kept their employees on the payroll or they hired them back if they had al-

ready laid them off. They have kept their lights on. Now it is time—when they are beginning to reopen their businesses, and they are still running short because those loans are about to run out, they need more help. If we don't provide it, they are going to lay off all those workers again. For many small businesses, they are going to be forced to close their doors.

Last week, I was pleased to work with Senators CARDIN and COONS to introduce the Prioritized Paycheck Protection Program, the P4 Act. That is legislation that would provide a second round of PPP funding for smaller businesses and particularly for those in the restaurant and hospitality industries which have been hit especially hard in recent months. They were the first to be closed down by government order, and they are the last to be able to open back up.

I am hopeful that, once again, we can work in a bipartisan way to make a proposal that will have support on both sides of the aisle and that will ensure that more businesses can stay afloat as we reopen our economy.

Our country is still hurting, and the coronavirus isn't going to go away without a vaccine. It is going to take a while for us to get back on our feet as a nation.

The devastating health and economic effects from COVID-19 will not be alleviated just because we pretend the coronavirus is going away. It will not be alleviated unless Congress acts. It was the decisive action that we took back at the end of February and March that has allowed so many businesses to stay afloat, so many families to continue to feed their kids and to pay their rent. It is going to be critical for us to continue to take action to provide that assistance.

We can't wait. We can't take a wait-and-see approach. We know that people are hurting right now. So I urge the Senate to take up and pass legislation. Let's negotiate what we don't like about the Heroes Act. Let's make changes, but let's take up that relief bill and continue to provide the help Americans are calling for. We have no more time to waste.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the