



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RICHMOND

Eileen Filler-Corn
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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
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By Email - Delrbell@house.virginia.gov

Honorable Robert Bell
Courts of Justice Chair
Virginia House of Delegates
2309 Finch Court
Charlottesville, VA 22911

Dear Chairman Bell:

As you know, House Democrats have repeatedly expressed to you our concerns regarding the overtly partisan nature of the hearing that you are proposing. Most recently, I relayed these concerns in the last [letter I sent you on March 31st](#). I still have not received a reply from you or your colleagues addressing these concerns, nor acknowledging the possibility of the alternative option that we suggested. As we have already outlined our concerns in great detail, I will not repeat them again in this letter.

Since February, House Democrats have made multiple attempts to negotiate with House Republicans in a good faith, bipartisan effort. Each time, House Republicans have manipulated the situation into a political show, choosing to respond in press conferences and media statements rather than directly to us.

I was disappointed that my March 31st letter to you went unacknowledged. As we have previously stated, Dr. Tyson and Ms. Watson deserve to share their stories publicly; however, House Republicans have failed to address any of the points of clarification we requested, and indeed, have only proven our concern that this hearing would be a partisan political exercise. As such, we will not participate in House Republicans' political games, nor will we turn such serious allegations into a partisan sideshow.

In your most recent letter, you proposed holding this hearing during the special session on gun violence prevention – a session that is very important to so many Virginians, especially in the wake of the recent tragedy. I hope you share our commitment to finally addressing the gun violence epidemic in our Commonwealth. We look forward to working with our colleagues across the aisle on July 9th to pass meaningful gun violence prevention legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eileen Filler-Corn".

Eileen Filler-Corn
House Minority Leader