

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We write to you with grave concern about the upcoming confirmation vote of Kash Patel to lead the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). We understand that it is the intention of the Senate Judiciary Committee to hold a vote on advancing Mr. Patel's nomination this week. Given the demonstrated inconsistencies in Mr. Patel's testimony at his confirmation hearing and his history of inflammatory statements, we respectfully ask that the Committee oppose Mr. Patel's nomination to become the next Director of the FBI.

The job of the FBI Director is a serious one: leading an agency tasked with upholding public safety, enforcing the nation's laws, and protecting our national security. That is why for decades, the FBI Director position has been held by independent, nonpartisan appointees with long, distinguished careers in law enforcement. This was true of President Donald Trump's first term nominee in 2017: Christopher Wray.

The nomination of Mr. Patel, an individual with almost no law enforcement experience and a history of politically charged and inflammatory statements is clearly a break from tradition and one that deserves extensive scrutiny as a result. He has published a list of political opponents in his book and has promised to shut down the FBI headquarters on his first day in office.¹ The FBI Director is not a position for an erratic political actor focused on retribution.

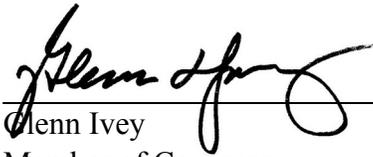
This is a dangerous and uncertain time for federal law enforcement. Current and former FBI agents have been targets of President Trump's desire for payback for investigations into the January 6th attack on the U.S. Capitol and his own alleged wrongdoing. We are concerned that Mr. Patel will carry out the President's retaliatory efforts rather than focus on the FBI's mission to keep the American people safe from threats at home and abroad.

The President is elected by the people and as such, they deserve to be assured that the leader of the FBI chosen by the President is singularly focused on keeping them safe and that he or she has the character and fitness to handle the tremendous responsibilities of that role. The United States faces national security challenges, including foreign influence, cybersecurity, and terrorism that the next FBI Director will need to tackle. Neglecting these actual threats to settle scores does not serve the needs of the American people.

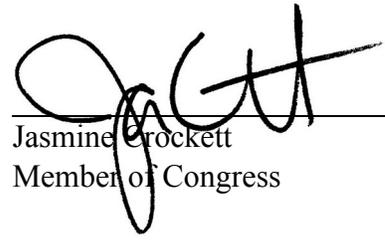
For these reasons, we respectfully request that Mr. Patel's nomination be opposed by every member of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

¹ Adam Goldman, *Patel Has Promised Drastic Changes at the F.B.I.*, NY Times (January 30, 2025)
<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/30/us/politics/patel-fbi-changes.html>.



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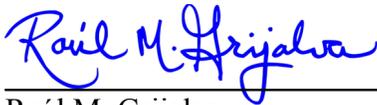
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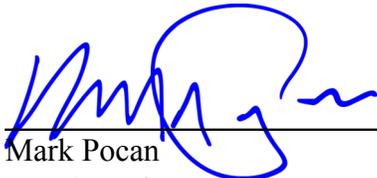
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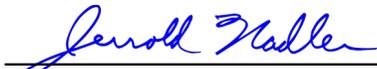
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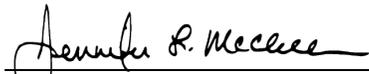
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