

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 13, 2022

Becky Pringle
President
National Education Association
1201 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036-3290

Dear Ms. Pringle:

We write regarding New Business Item 15 which was considered and adopted during the National Education Association's (NEA) 2022 Representative Assembly. We are concerned that the NEA reportedly plans to spend \$140,000 to create an 'enemies list' of groups that have been identified as "actively working to diminish a students' right to honesty in education, freedom of sexual and gender identity, and teacher autonomy".¹

As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the education of millions of children who were forced to learn remotely. We are only beginning to realize the grievous implications of the public health emergency in terms of student learning loss, and the diminished social skills of children.² The need to focus on our children, and the work involved with meeting their individual learning needs, has never been more critical.

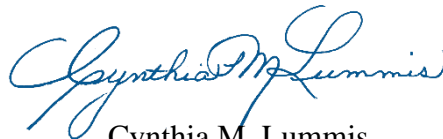
We are disturbed to know that the nation's largest labor union, with over 3 million members working in public education,³ seems more concerned with advancing a 'social justice' agenda instead of meeting the needs of children and students who are experiencing catastrophic learning challenges.⁴

Despite each year's New Business Items being previously published on the NEA's website for public access, New Business Item 15 is not currently reviewable by the public.⁵ An effort that seems designed to protect the NEA from scrutiny. Accordingly, we are requesting a copy of the contents of New Business Item 15. Moreover, please identify what purposes the 'enemies list' will serve, and describe how it will be used.

Sincerely,



Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator

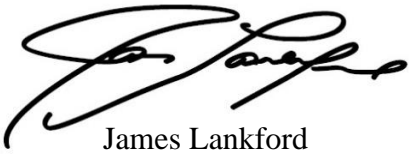
¹ <https://www.foxnews.com/media/nea-teachers-union-spending-140k-enemies-list-opposition-research-groups-turning-heat-schools>

² <https://sacramento.newsreview.com/2022/07/11/measuring-covids-effect-on-a-generation-of-young-californians/>

³ <https://www.nea.org/about-nea>

⁴ <https://www.savethechildren.org/us/charity-stories/learning-loss>

⁵ <https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/conferences-events/annual-meeting-and-representative-assembly/business-items?>

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Lankford'.

James Lankford
United States Senator