

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 16, 2019

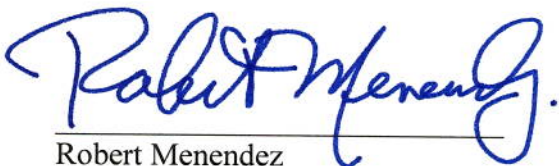
The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We seek your immediate confirmation that you have preserved all records, including notes, transcripts, documents, and communications related to any meetings, telephone calls, or any other interaction that you have had with Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin since being sworn into office in January 2017, and we call upon you to preserve all such records going forward. According to recent news reports, you have confiscated interpreters' notes and taken other steps to conceal the content of your conversations with the Russian leader. Your insistence on secrecy related to these interactions, even with your own staff, is alarming, unprecedented, and could be in violation of the Presidential Records Act and Federal Records Act. In light of reports on January 11, 2019 that the Federal Bureau of Investigation opened a counterintelligence investigation into your ties with the Russian Federation, we believe it to be in the national security interests of the United States that any record of these conversations be preserved and immediately provided to Congress.

Moreover, it is critical that the American people, through their representatives, understand what has transpired during your interactions with Vladimir Putin. In light of the continuing level of secrecy shrouding your interactions with the Russian leader, we insist that the interpreters for these interactions, especially the individual who interpreted for your meeting with President Putin in Helsinki, be made immediately available for interviews with the relevant committees in Congress.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator