



CITIZENS FOR
RESPONSIBILITY &
ETHICS IN WASHINGTON

November 3, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Andrew Ketchings
House Clerk
Mississippi State Capitol
400 High Street
Jackson, MS 39201
aketchings@house.ms.gov

Re: Public Records Request, HR 87

Mr. Ketchings:

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (“CREW”) makes this request for records from the Mississippi House of Representatives pursuant to the Mississippi Code §25-61-1 et seq.

Specifically, CREW requests the following records relating to House Resolution 87 (“HR 87”) created on or before April 1, 2021:

1. All records reflecting any communications, meeting, phone calls, or conversations regarding HR 87 or any predecessor version of that resolution with representatives of any non-governmental or private organization, including without limitation the following organizations and individuals:
 - i. Claremont Institute (@claremont.org)
 - ii. Be the People Project
 - iii. Unity Training Solutions (@unitytrainingsolutions.com)
 - iv. Steamboat Institute (@steamboatinstitute.org)
 - v. America First Policy Institute (@AmericaFirstPolicy.com)
 - vi. The Hoover Institute
 - vii. American Majority (@americanmajority.org)
 - viii. American Cornerstone Institute (@americancornerstone.org)
 - ix. 1776 Action (@1776action.org)
 - x. Heritage Action for America (@heritageaction.org)
 - xi. Heritage Foundation (@heritage.org)
 - xii. Susan B. Anthony List (@sba-list.org)
 - xiii. American Principles Project (@americanprinciplesproject.org)

- xiv. Tea Party Patriots
 - xv. FreedomWorks (@freedomworks.org)
 - xvi. American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) (@alec.org)
 - xvii. Family Research Council
 - xviii. Honest Elections Project (@honestelections.org)
 - xix. State Policy Network (@spn.org)
 - xx. Alliance Defending Freedom (@adfllegal.org)
 - xxi. Federalist Society (@fedsoc.org)
 - xxii. Cleta Mitchell
 - xxiii. Ken Cuccinelli
2. All records discussing the potential effect of any provision of HR 87 on Black, Latino, or other racial, ethnic, or sexual minorities and including without limitation the following provisions of HR 87:
 - i. “[C]ritical race theory and related ideologies propagate divisive and untrue concepts that teach one race or sex is inherently superior to another and that individuals of one race or sex are inherently superior to another and that individuals of one race or sex should be deprived of basic rights simply because of their race or sex” (HR 87, Section 4)
 - ii. “[I]t is contrary to the laws of God and nature that an individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex and that individuals should thus be discriminated against in the classroom, the workplace or any public forum or place” (HR 87, Section 5)
 3. All records reflecting any analysis, consideration, or determination regarding how HR 87 would serve to decrease political divisiveness or promote racial, ethnic, or sexual equality, including any evidence or data supporting such analyses.
 4. All records relating to the legislative procedures for HR 87 , including without limitation records relating to:
 - i. Requirements or limitations regarding testimony from members of the public on the resolution
 - ii. Requirements or limitations regarding debate on the resolution

Please search for responsive records in the office of the following representatives:

- Rep. Chris Brown
- Rep. Dana Criswell
- Rep. Dan Eubanks



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Please search for responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. We seek records of any kind, including paper records, electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, data, and graphical material. Our request includes without limitation all correspondence, letters, emails, text messages, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions. Our request also includes any attachments to emails and other records, as well as emails to which the subjects of this request were cc'ed or bcc'ed.

If some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please redact those portions and produce the remainder of the requested records.

CREW is a non-profit corporation, organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. CREW is committed to protecting the public's right to be aware of the activities of government officials, to ensuring the integrity of those officials, and to highlighting and reducing the influence of money on politics. CREW intends to analyze the information responsive to this request and to share its analysis with the public. The release of information obtained through this request is not in CREW's financial interest.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, CREW agrees to pay up to \$100. However, CREW also requests a waiver of all fees associated with the instant request because the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest. The public is entitled to information concerning the decision-making processes of the Mississippi House of Representatives and the requested records would likely contribute to public understanding of who may have influenced this resolution and why. The public deserves to know what role, if any, external organizations may be playing in promoting this resolution. Further, this information is not being sought for commercial purposes. If copying fees are expected to exceed \$100, or if you anticipate that "extensive use" of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance will be needed to fulfill this request, please contact me at foia@citizensforethics.org.

Where possible, please produce records in electronic format. Please send the requested records to me at either foia@citizensforethics.org or Justine Ellis, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, 1331 F St. NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20004.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this request or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Justine Ellis

1331 F St NW, Suite 900, Washington DC, 20004
info@citizensforethics.org 202.408.5565

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