

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20515–6216
One Hundred Fifteenth Congress

January 23, 2018

Chairman Bob Goodlatte
House Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte,

I have now reviewed the so-called “Nunes Memo,” a document written by intelligence committee majority staff. It is a profoundly misleading document. The House Committee on the Judiciary must act without delay to correct the record and—in your words—to permit Special Counsel Mueller to complete his investigation “without interference.”¹

You and I have had the opportunity to review many of the documents that the intelligence committee claims are the basis for its memo. Those materials tell a very different story than the conspiracy theory concocted by Chairman Nunes and being repeated in the press. I write to urge you to take the following actions without delay:

- **Join me in asking the Department of Justice to make these source materials available to every member of our Committee.** Too many of our colleagues appear to be constructing their own version of history—completely unrelated to the facts as you and I understand them—based, at least in part, on this memorandum.² We should all be disturbed that hundreds of Russian-linked Twitter accounts are attempting to amplify this message.³ Our members should have the benefit of access to the *actual* record without delay.

¹ *Markup of H.R. 391, the “Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act”*; and *H.Res. 446, Resolution of Inquiry*, before the H. Comm. on the Judiciary, July 26, 2017 (statement of Chairman Bob Goodlatte).

² See, e.g., *It’s time for Jeff Sessions to go, as shown by the latest FBI leak*, Rep. Mark Meadows and Rep. Jim Jordan, WASH. EXAMINER, Jan. 4, 2018. See also Daniel Chaitin, *Republicans rally for public release of memo on FISA abuses*, WASH. EXAMINER, Jan. 18, 2018; Tim Hains, *Rep. Gaetz: “Heads Will Roll” at DOJ and FBI When Details of FISA Abuse Memo Come Out*, REAL CLEAR POLITICS, Jan. 19, 2018; Sally Persons, *Rep. Ron DeSantis wants memo on dossier, FISA abuses to be made public*, WASH. TIMES, Jan. 19, 2018.

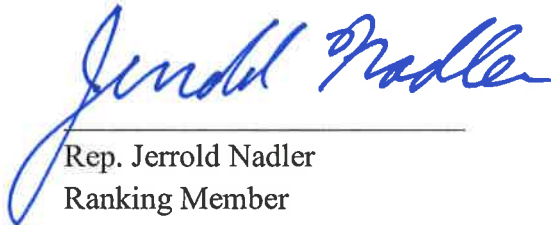
³ See Zachary Basu, *Russian Twitter bots jump on #ReleaseTheMemo*, AXIOS, Jan. 19, 2018.

- **Join me in asking Chairman Nunes to grant the Department of Justice and the FBI access to his memo.** It is profoundly unfair for Chairman Nunes to withhold the details of his accusations from the DOJ and the FBI.⁴ Some of our colleagues have compounded the problem by attacking the Department in public—where, because of the classified and sensitive nature of the case, Department officials cannot defend themselves. We have primary jurisdiction over these agencies, and we should work together to allow them to formulate a meaningful response to the accusations leveled by Chairman Nunes.

You and I agree on the importance of protecting the Special Counsel’s investigation. Again, in your words: “[a]s the principal committee of jurisdiction over the FBI and DOJ, it is imperative that this Committee conduct oversight” over the questions raised by Chairman Nunes and others.⁵

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Rep. Jerrold Nadler
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary

⁴ Betsy Woodruff, *FBI: Devin Nunes Won’t Show Us Memo Alleging Surveillance Abuses*, DAILY BEAST, Jan. 21, 2018.

⁵ Letter from Chairman Robert Goodlatte, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions et al., Dec. 6, 2017.