

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 14, 2015

The Honorable Loretta Lynch
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

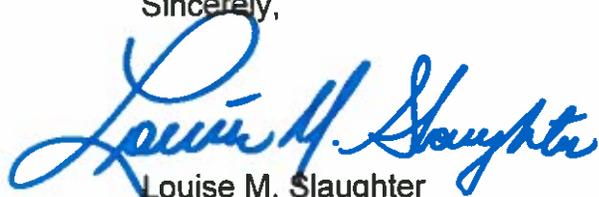
Dear Attorney General Lynch:

Today, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) released their report, *"Women in STEM Research: Better Data and Information Sharing Could Improve Oversight of Federal Grant-making and Title IX Compliance."* Out of concern for the advancement and fair treatment of women in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields in the federal government, we requested that the GAO examine federal agencies' efforts to address gender discrimination in the (STEM) fields.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has the responsibility for coordinating the consistent and effective implementation of Title IX, placing DOJ in a crucial role for ensuring equality for women in STEM research. As such, DOJ facilitated a Title IX interagency working group from 2005-2010. Several of the six STEM grant-making agencies analyzed in the report indicated that this working group provided a forum for information exchange and sharing of best practices that was extremely helpful in their efforts to level the playing field for women. Five of the six agencies reported a need for DOJ to facilitate greater interagency communication on Title IX compliance. Therefore, we request that the DOJ immediately reconvene this working group, in conjunction with ongoing Title IX efforts, and broaden participation to other STEM grant making agencies such as HHS and DOD. Women in STEM will not reach equality unless we remain vigilant to the effort.

Thank you for your time and careful attention to this important matter. If you have any questions please contact Rep. Slaughter's office through Jennifer Brookes at jennifer.brookes@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-3615.

Sincerely,


Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress


Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress