February 4, 2021

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 3.1 million members of the National Education Association, who teach, mentor, and support students in communities across America—emphasizing civil debate, reason, and adherence to facts rather than conspiracy theories—we urge you to vote YES on H.Res. 72 on removing Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene from the education committee. Votes on this issue may be included in the NEA Report Card for the 117th Congress.

We believe it is important to send a strong message that her incendiary words and false claims are dangerous. They are well outside the bounds of civil discourse, and, simply put, are not befitting elected leaders who have the privilege of representing Americans in the House of Representatives. We realize that Greene’s constituents elected her, and they will have the final say on her representation of them in Congress. However, she should not be rewarded with committee assignments for behavior so reprehensible that any of us would be horrified if our own children engaged in it. This is particularly true with regard to her placement on the committee with jurisdiction over legislation impacting our nation’s students and educators. (We refer you to our joint letter with AFT President Randi Weingarten to House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy earlier this week, urging him to remove Greene from the education committee.)

We will not delve into every racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim statement Greene has made or all of the QAnon theories she has espoused and spread—her record is well-publicized and too lengthy for this letter. We will simply remind you of this: Greene harassed Parkland school shooting survivor David Hogg on a public street in Washington, where he had gone to meet with members of Congress. Greene was so proud of herself that she posted video, apparently pleased with being an adult (with children of her own) who traumatized an already victimized teenager. It is one thing to disagree with the advocacy that Hogg chose to engage in, but quite another to castigate and threaten him for it.

We also remind you that this is National Gun Violence Survivors Week, yet Greene disrespects the memory of those who have died or been wounded in mass shootings by calling these tragedies “false flag” operations. If she denies the reality of mass shootings, we certainly cannot trust her to sit on a committee whose charge is to oversee and create legislation that would help us provide safe, nurturing, supportive learning environments for students.

The eyes of millions of educators, parents and students are on you, and we sincerely hope that you will lead by taking the bold and decisive step of removing her from the education
committee. We must expect sitting members of Congress to uphold the standards of propriety, decency, and basic humanity that we work hard to cultivate in our children, and we should not reward them when they do not.

Sincerely,

Rebecca S. Pringle
President
National Education Association