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COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

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AND REFORM

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

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Dear Democratic Colleague:

I hope this letter finds you safe and well and enjoying some time with family during the August recess.

In light of recent changes caused by the results of the Congressional primary in the 12<sup>th</sup> District of New York, I am writing to respectfully request your support for my candidacy to serve as the lead Democrat on the Committee on Oversight and Reform in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Now in my 22<sup>nd</sup> year in Congress, I am by far the most senior member of the Oversight Committee seeking this position.

By way of background, I grew up in public housing along with my five sisters in a postal family, and worked as a union ironworker at construction sites across the country for nearly two decades. I was later elected as President of Ironworkers Local 7 in Boston and after attending night school became a labor attorney – fighting for fair and equitable wages, safe working conditions, and health and pension benefits on behalf of the hardworking men and women of the Ironworkers, Carpenters, Teamsters, and Stagehands Unions as well as the IATSE Wardrobe Workers, 90% of whom are women.

In Congress, I have proudly served as a member of the Oversight and Reform Committee for more than 20 years and have had the extraordinary privilege of pursuing key oversight investigations under the leadership of Democratic chairs – including Rep. Henry A. Waxman, the late Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, and Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney – who have all stood as steadfast, principled, and fearless champions for truth on behalf of our caucus and the American people. I am deeply committed to building upon this legacy and keeping faith with our shared mission to maintain transparency in government in service to our Nation.

As an attorney and legislator, I believe that the role of the Oversight Committee is more important now than ever.

Authorized to investigate “any matter,” the Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal investigatory panel in the House and is responsible for identifying waste, fraud, and abuse in federal spending and programs. Importantly, the Committee must preserve legislative prerogatives and authorities against Executive Branch overreach and ensure that the laws are faithfully executed pursuant to Congressional intent, and in a manner that maximizes our accountability to the American people. Notably, in recent years the Committee has also been compelled to resort to litigation to enforce its oversight jurisdiction and our investigatory power

has become a critical line of defense for uncovering and communicating the truth where political zeal, partisanship, and disinformation seek to undermine facts, erode constitutional or statutory rights, and degrade our most fundamental democratic institutions.

I firmly believe that my service on the Committee since 2001 reflects my commitment to this important work. For the past 17 years, I have served as a Chairman or Ranking Member of an Oversight Subcommittee – a record that is unmatched by any Committee member – and I have fought proudly against Republican legislative attacks designed to curb critical safety regulations, abrogate the fundamental employment rights of federal employees, privatize and dismantle the Postal Service, and infringe on D.C. Home Rule. As a longtime Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, I have led dozens of bipartisan Congressional Delegations to examine security and humanitarian conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as multiple missions to Ukraine, Pakistan, Somalia, Yemen, Syria, Gaza, Libya, Mali, and other conflict zones to ensure that we provide our deployed military, diplomatic, and humanitarian personnel with the resources they need to carry out their missions safely and effectively.

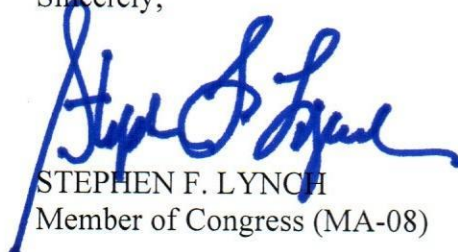
Currently I am leading several active oversight investigations related to Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, emerging worldwide terrorist threats, U.S. election security, U.S. preparedness for pandemics and biological attacks, and challenges facing America's veterans. In support of these efforts, I also continue to prioritize firsthand oversight by members on both sides of the aisle.

As the most senior Democrat running to lead the Committee, I am well prepared to serve at this pivotal moment in our history when it is clear that some Republican members have actively chosen to disregard the truth and their sworn oaths of office in favor of political gamesmanship, divisive rhetoric, and disinformation regarding the 2020 election, the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection, misconduct by former President Trump, and other issues of critical concern to the American people.

In my experience, the Oversight Committee has been most effective when we allow individual members to showcase their diverse talents and areas of keen interest. That same Member collaboration reflects and advances the fundamental interests of the American people and entails robust, objective, and sustained fact-finding on their behalf. I would be deeply honored to serve our Caucus and lead the Committee in this mission.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my candidacy to serve as the lead Democrat on the Committee on Oversight and Reform in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress. I look forward to speaking with you in person as this process continues.

Sincerely,



STEPHEN F. LYNCH  
Member of Congress (MA-08)