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February 28, 2018

The Honorable Richard Burr  
Chairman

The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
Vice Chairman

Dear Chairman Burr and Vice Chairman Warner,

I write to urge that the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence hold public hearings on financial relationships between Donald Trump and his associates and Russia.

On March 29, 2017, I wrote you a letter urging that the Committee conduct a thorough review of any and all such relationships as part of its inquiry into Russia's interference in the U.S. election. Since then, there have only been more press accounts describing financial ties between Russia and Trump and his associates, as well as public testimony from the president's son-in-law that has raised far more questions than answers. The indictments of former Trump campaign chair Paul Manafort and campaign aide Richard Gates have also highlighted the importance of money laundering, bank fraud and tax evasion to any investigation of Russia's influence in U.S. politics.

Following the money is a critical component of any counterintelligence investigation, particularly when there are this many indicators of extensive, long-standing and illicit financial relationships. I do not believe, however, that the Committee has adequately investigated these matters or that the Trump Administration, and in particular the Secretary of the Treasury, has cooperated with congressional oversight. Indeed, the Secretary has refused to release assessments of senior Russian officials and Russian oligarchs, despite a statutory requirement to do so.

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Public hearings are therefore necessary both to inform the American public and to ensure that Congress obtains the information it needs to investigate further. I therefore urge that the Committee hold a public hearing with key figures involved in Donald Trump's finances, including Michael Cohen, Jared Kushner and Donald Trump Jr., subject to deconfliction with the investigation of the Special Counsel. I further urge that Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin testify in open session to discuss information available to the Department of the Treasury, as well as the congressionally mandated report the Department has refused to release to the public.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RWY', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Ron Wyden  
United States Senator