

EXHIBIT %



September 11, 2018

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Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and the Department of Education's FOIA Policy, 34 C.F.R. pt. 5, Democracy Forward Foundation, Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence ("Giffords Law Center"), and the Center for Democracy and Justice ("CDJ") are submitting this request for records related to the Department of Education's actions regarding the purchase of firearms for school staff. The Washington Post reported that Secretary DeVos stated that the Department of Education would take no action "concerning the purchase of firearms or firearms training for school staff."

considering whether to allow states to use federal funds to arm school teachers with guns.¹ News reports state that the issue arose following inquiries from the States of Texas and Oklahoma.² Thereafter, Secretary DeVos stated in an August 31, 2018, letter to Congress that the Department of Education would take no action "concerning the purchase of firearms or firearms training for school staff."³

This action is dangerous and unprecedented. Congress has consistently, on a bipartisan basis, opposed the use of federal funds to purchase weapons; and there has been no recent action by Congress that would support Secretary DeVos's actions. The funds at issue, also known as Title IV-A funds, are those

forward on behalf of Giffords Law Center, SPLC, and the Center for Democracy and Justice. We request that you produce the following on an expedited basis:

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/22/us/politics/betsy-devos-guns.html>.

² <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/08/23/betsy-devos-guns-in-schools-750219>

³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/devos-leaving-it-to-states-whether-to-use-federal-money-to-buy-guns-for-schools/2018/08/31/947ec06c-ad46-11e8-8a0c-70b618c98d3c_story.html?utm_term=.3794c13f6796.

1.Á The letter (or other communication) that the Department of Education reportedly received from Oklahoma state or local school officials asking whether ESSA funds could be used to fund the purchase of guns.

2.Á

disclosable and how that information is dispersed throughout the document.

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Further, the Requestors meet t

Deputy Legal Director
Southern Poverty Law Center

I hereby certify that the information provided regarding AFT in the request for expedited processing is true and correct. September 10, 2018.

/s/ Michelle Ringuette
Assistant to the President for Government Relations
American Federation of TeachersÀ