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**Congress of the United States**  
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HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND WORKFORCE TRAINING

June 27th, 2016

Timothy P. White, Chancellor  
The California State University  
Office of the Chancellor  
401 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, CA 90802

President Janet Napolitano  
University of California  
Office of the President  
1111 Franklin Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Chancellor White and President Napolitano:

We are writing to urge you to incorporate the victim impact statement from the recent Stanford University campus sexual assault case into your consent education curriculums. This statement is a powerful commentary on the nature of consent and the emotional impact of sexual assault, and we believe that including it will further the aim of consent education programs.

Campus sexual assault is a pervasive problem that has only recently begun to receive the attention it deserves. One case in particular, in which Stanford student Brock Turner was convicted of three counts of felony sexual assault, has captured the nation's interest in recent weeks. Between the disturbing details of the crime, the unusual lenience of the sentence, and the victim's own courage and spirit, this case has reignited the discussion on campus sexual assault. Sadly, the reactions of those who have defended Turner have also shown us that too many individuals still do not understand the severity of these crimes.

We understand that both the University of California and California State University systems have implemented consent education programs on their campuses, and we commend you for the steps you've taken to better serve victims and prevent sexual assaults on campus. Educating young people on the meaning and importance of consent is a vital part of this effort, and we believe that incorporating the Stanford victim's statement will strengthen these curriculums. Students need to understand that these cases are not merely drunken mistakes or misunderstandings, but crimes that can have a severe impact on their victims, and including this brave young woman's account of her own experience will help

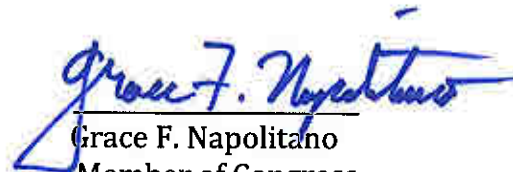
emphasize this point. Her narrative also underscores the importance of bystander intervention, which these programs should encourage.

Victims' perspectives can play an important role in sexual assault and consent education. The victim's statement in this case is a powerful message that all students should hear, and we hope that you will take this opportunity to incorporate her words into your curriculums for incoming students.

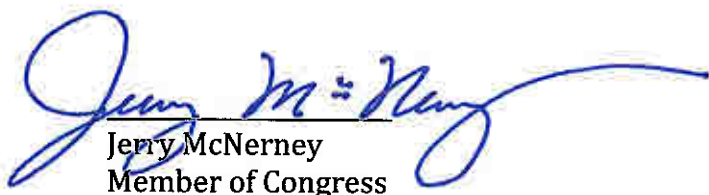
Sincerely,



Susan A. Davis  
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress




Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
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Alan Lowenthal  
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Janice Hahn  
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Jackie Speier  
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Mark DeSauliner  
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