United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 18, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune:

We call on you to immediately bring the *Epstein Files Transparency Act* (H.R. 4405) to a vote on the Senate floor. This bill, which overwhelmingly passed the U.S. House of Representatives today with bipartisan support by a vote of 427 to 1, would require the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to make documents and records related to Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell publicly available and provide much-needed transparency to the American people.[1]

As you know, despite promises from then-candidate Donald Trump, the current Trump Administration DOJ and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), President Trump, and his subordinates have obfuscated, misdirected, and obstructed efforts in both the Senate and the House to secure release of the Epstein files. In 2024, President Trump stated on the campaign trail that he would "declassify" the Epstein files.[2] Attorney General Bondi, once confirmed by the Senate, indicated that the Epstein client list was "sitting on my desk right now to review."[3] However, President Trump and his Administration have not kept their promises.

As Members of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Leader Schumer made clear earlier this year in multiple letters to Attorney General Bondi, "[a]fter missteps and failed promises by your Department regarding these [Epstein] files, it is essential that the Trump Administration provide full transparency."[4] Senate Judiciary Committee Ranking Member Durbin has disclosed that, according to FBI whistleblowers, FBI personnel were instructed to "flag" any Epstein records in which President Trump was mentioned.[5] When

[1] H.R. 4405, 119th Congress (July 15, 2025).

[2] Trump War Room, X (Jun. 3, 2024) (x.com/TrumpWarRoom/status/1797720117737865557).

[3] *Attorney General Bondi brushes aside questions about her handling of Epstein files*, NPR (Jul. 15, 2025) (www.npr.org/2025/07/15/g-s1-77698/pam-bondi-jeffrey-epstein-justice-department).

[4] *See* Letter from Sen. Gary Peters, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, *et al.*, to Hon. Pamela Bondi, Attorney General (Jul. 29, 2025).

[5] *See* Letter from Sen. Durbin, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to Hon. Pamela Bondi, Attorney General (July 18, 2025); Letter from Sen. Durbin, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to Kash Patel, Director of the Fed. Bureau of Investigation (July 18, 2025); Letter from Sen. Durbin, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, to Dan Bongino, Deputy Director of the Fed. Bureau of Investigation (July 18, 2025).

Senator Durbin asked Attorney General Bondi about this during a Judiciary Committee oversight hearing, Bondi stonewalled, saying, "I'm not going to discuss anything about that with you."[6] Despite multiple Senate oversight requests and House subpoenas for release of the full and complete Epstein files, DOJ and the FBI have refused to produce any information to the Senate and have failed to provide the complete set of files to the House.

House Republican leadership has tried to provide cover for the Trump Administration by not backing efforts to require the documents to be released. Speaker Johnson refused to swear in U.S. Representative Adelita Grijalva for seven weeks to block her from signing the discharge petition that ultimately forced the House vote on the bill.[7]

Newly released emails raise serious questions about President Trump's knowledge of, and possible complicity in, Epstein's crimes. In 2011, Epstein emailed Maxwell, "that dog that hasn't barked is trump.. [victim] spent hours at my house with him ,, [sic] he has never once been mentioned."[8] In 2019, Epstein again referenced President Trump, stating "of course he knew about the girls as he asked ghislaine to stop".[9] These revelations further demonstrate the urgent need for the Trump Administration to provide transparency and release the full Epstein files.

The U.S. Senate has the chance to show strong leadership and swiftly pass this legislation. We urge you to promptly proceed to the consideration of the *Epstein Files Transparency Act* on the Senate floor pursuant to Senate Rule XIV, so that the legislation can be immediately placed on the Senate Calendar. The Senate should move without delay to pass this legislation unamended and send it on to the President to be signed into law.

The victims of Jeffrey Epstein – and the American people – deserve answers, accountability and the truth. So far, they have only seen empty promises from President Trump and his Administration. Now that a majority of the U.S. House of Representatives has responsibly acted to provide transparency on this matter – we call on you to quickly hold a vote in the U.S. Senate to help deliver the accountability that was promised and that so many Americans are demanding.

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[6] *Oversight of the Department of Justice*, Hearing before the S. Comm. on the Judiciary, 119th Cong. (Oct. 7, 2025).

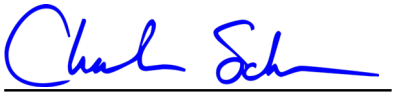
[7] Discharge Petition No. 9, Motion to Discharge a Committee from the Consideration of a Resolution, U.S. House of Representatives (Sept. 2, 2025).

[8] Email from Jeffrey Epstein to Ghislaine Maxwell (Apr. 2, 2011). House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, "House Oversight Committee Releases Jeffrey Epstein Email Correspondence, Raising Questions About White House Coverup of Epstein Files" (Nov. 12, 2025) (oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/house-oversight-committee-releases-jeffrey-epstein-email-correspondence-raising).

[9] Email from Jeffrey Epstein to Michael Wolff (Jan. 31, 2019). House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, "House Oversight Committee Releases Jeffrey Epstein Email Correspondence, Raising Questions About White House Coverup of Epstein Files" (Nov. 12, 2025) (oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/house-oversight-committee-releases-jeffrey-epstein-email-correspondence-raising).

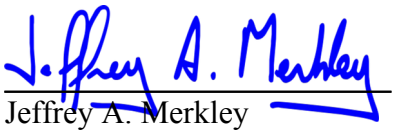
Sincerely,

Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



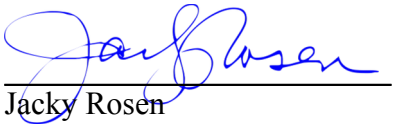
Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



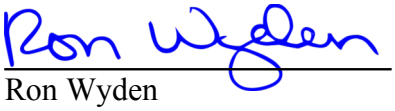
Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

Ruben Gallego
United States Senator

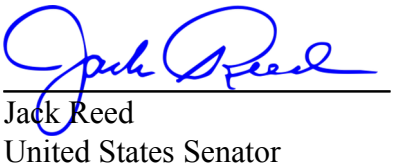


Jacky Rosen
United States Senator

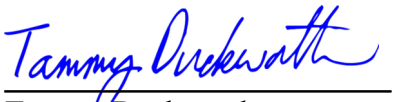
Alex Padilla
United States Senator



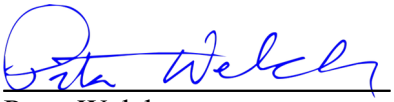
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



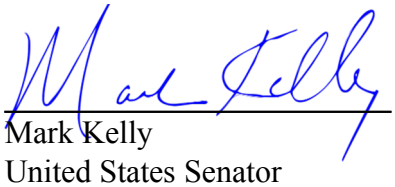
Jack Reed
United States Senator



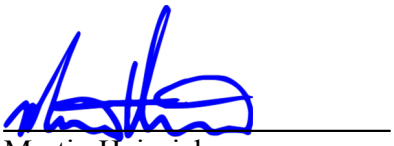
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator

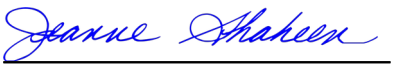


Mark Kelly
United States Senator

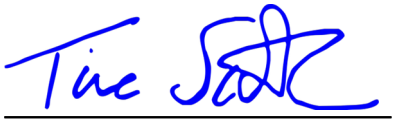


Martin Heinrich
United States Senator

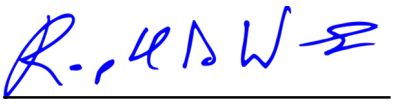
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

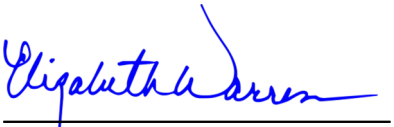


Tina Smith
United States Senator

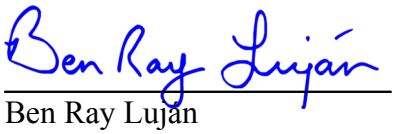


Raphael Warnock
United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

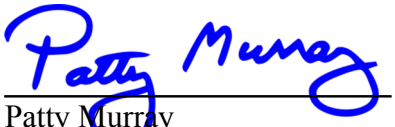


Ben Ray Luján
United States Senator

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

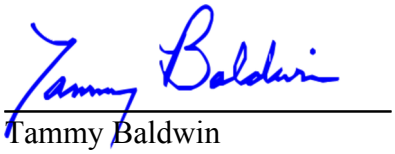
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



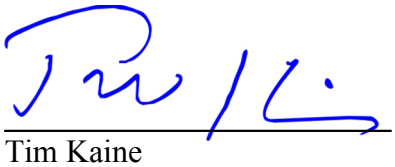
Patty Murray
United States Senator

Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States Senator

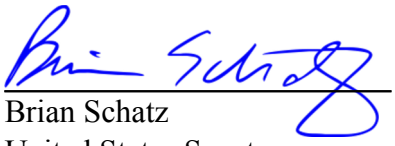


Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



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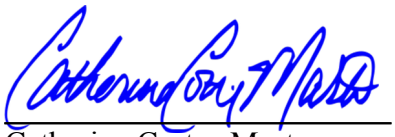
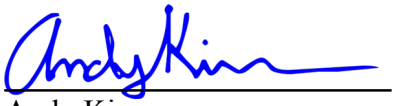
United States Senator

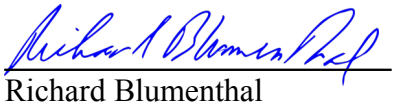


Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator

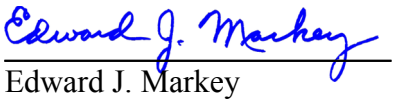


Andy Kim
United States Senator

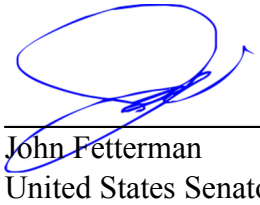
Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



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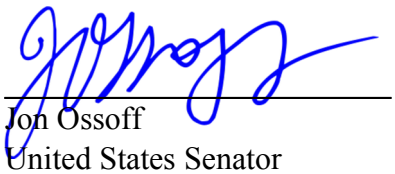
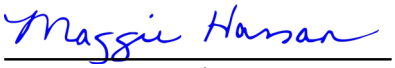
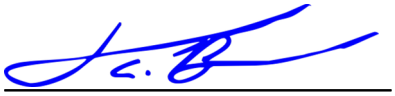
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



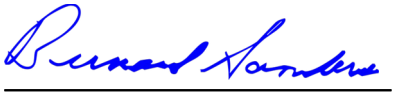
Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

Mark R. Warner
United States Senator

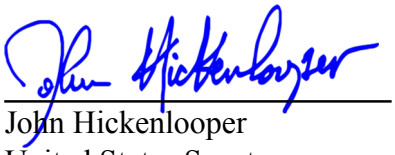
Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

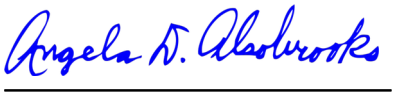


Bernard Sanders
United States Senator

Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



Angela D. Alsobrooks
United States Senator

Maria Cantwell
United States Senator