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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
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Washington, DC 20515

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April 5, 2017

Mr. Craig Shields  
3631 Pine St  
Santa Ynez, CA 93460-9427

Dear Mr. Shields:

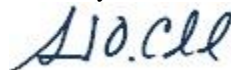
Thank you for contacting me to express your concerns about Russian influence in the Trump Administration and 2016 Presidential election. As your newly-elected Member of Congress, I appreciate hearing from you on this critical issue as it helps keep me informed of your priorities and concerns.

As you may know, multiple federal intelligence agencies and independent third-party sources have concluded with high confidence that the Russian government directly interfered in our election by hacking into the Democratic National Committee, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and the email accounts of senior advisors to Secretary Hillary Clinton. In addition, FBI Director James Comey confirmed under oath that their agency is currently investigating the influence of Russia during the campaign and within the Trump Administration.

Russian influence in our political system is a grave threat to our entire country and our democracy which must be thoroughly analyzed and stopped immediately. Like you, I believe that we need a full report and investigation of exactly what happened, the motivations behind it, and how it can be prevented in the future. That is why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 356, the Protecting Our Democracy Act, which would establish a national commission to investigate foreign influence in the 2016 election and possible coordination with the Trump campaign and administration.

Again, I appreciate the time you took to contact me on this issue. As additional legislation is brought forward on this or other topics of interest to you, I hope that you will continue to reach out and share your viewpoint. Please keep in touch by visiting my [website](#), liking my [Facebook page](#), and following me on [Twitter](#), or signing up for my [e-newsletter](#).

Sincerely,



Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress

SC/MQ