Virginia Tech Victims c/o Security On Campus, Inc. 133 Ivy Lane, Suite 200 King of Prussia, PA 19406

February 5, 2008

The Honorable George Miller Chairman Committee on Education and Labor U.S. House of Representatives 2181 Rayburn House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Howard McKeon Ranking Member Committee on Education and Labor U.S. House of Representatives 2101 Rayburn House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller and Ranking Member McKeon:

We write to you to give voices to our children who were senselessly slaughtered or wounded on April 16, 2007 at Virginia Tech. For our families life will never be the same but if any good can come from our losses it will be that we all better protect our nation's young people.

The emergency response and notification provisions that you have included in H.R. 4137, the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007, will serve as a living memorial to our children. We applaud the leadership that each of you and Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy have demonstrated in bringing this about.

We also ask you to jointly stand in strong opposition to any efforts to weaken these provisions. A mandate that warnings be sent "in not more than 30" minutes is essential. Keeping this 30 minutes or less deadline will make sure there are no needless delays like there was at Virginia Tech when it took two hours to get a woefully inadequate warning out. More facts can be released as new information becomes available but everyone deserves to know of a grave danger immediately.

The American people make a significant investment in higher education but it will be meaningless if we can't provide a safe learning environment and protect our students. Making sure students are warned within 30 minutes, not hours later when a bureaucratic school official decides it is time, is a very simple thing to ask in return for this massive investment in our nation's colleges.

Thank you for your continued leadership to keep our nation's college and university campuses as safe as possible. It is time there is truly accountability at colleges for what they do to protect our most precious resource – our students and future leaders. Your loved ones could be the ones spared.

Sincerely,

Lynnetto alamedicine

Lynnette Alameddine Mother of Ross Alameddine

Michael Bishop Father of Jamie Bishop

Lottie Clark

Letitie Clark Mother of Ryan Christopher Clark

Andrew L. Goddard Father Colin L. Goddard

John Grimes Step-Father of Kevin Sterne

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Jeri Bishop Mother of Jamie Bishop

Dennis + Deverly Blokm

Dennis & Beverly Bluhm Parents of Brian Bluhm

Patrice a. Gaig

Patricia A. Craig Aunt of Ryan Christopher Clark

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Anne L. Goddard Mother of Colin L. Goddard

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Suzanne Grimes Mother of Kevin Sterne

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Greg Gwaltney Father of Matthew Gwaltney

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Marian E. Hammaren Mother of Caitlin M. Hammaren

Rogen W. On

Roger W. O'Dell Father of Derek O'Dell

Michael Pohle Father of Michael Pohle, Jr.

Mona Samaha

Mona Samaha Mother of Reema Samaha

b.)m.°

David M. White Father of Nicole White

Aratur M. Hamann\_

Christian M. Hammaren Father of Caitlin M. Hammaren

+ McQuade

Jody McQuade Mother of Sean McQuade

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William F. O'Neil Father of Daniel Patrick O'Neil

Jahr

Joseph Samaha Father of Reema Samaha

Girish Suratkal Brother of Minal Panchal

White Inicea

Tricia White Mother of Nicole White