Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 12, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem Secretary of Homeland Security U.S. Department of Homeland Security 3801 Nebraska Ave NW Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Noem:

As members of the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, we write to urge the Department of Homeland Security to reconsider the termination of the Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) Program grant award to NH School Administrative Unit #18 [the Franklin, NH School District] (EMW-2024-GR-05231).

In October 2024, the Department awarded the Franklin School District a \$486,386 grant to support the district's efforts to target violence taking place at school. The school district proposed to hire a student behavior specialist to better understand the risk factors for violence among students, in addition to educator training and outreach to students to better equip the school community with prevention and intervention techniques for violence. After receiving the award, Franklin began budgeting for staffing to administer this program and prepared a summer institute for educators on violence prevention.

However, on July 21st, the Department notified the school district of the termination of its grant. The letter from the Department claims that this grant was terminated because of its "potential to support activities not aligned with DHS's current focus." Yet, according to DHS's website on the program, "the TVTP Grant Program provides financial assistance to develop sustainable, multi-disciplinary prevention capabilities in local communities," in consultation with "mental health providers, educators... [and] social services... to help people who are on a pathway to violence before harm occurs." Franklin's project precisely meets those objectives by equipping educators and administrators with the resources to understand the factors driving violence at schools and empowering students to take positive steps toward a constructive school culture.

Ensuring that students have a safe and supportive learning environment with well-trained staff who are able to meet students' mental and behavioral health needs must be a shared priority. In light of these considerations, we ask that the Department reverse its decision to terminate the Franklin School District's grant.

We thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Shaheen

United States Senator

Margaret Wood Hassan United States Senator

Chris Pappas

Member of Congress

Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress