



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Glenn Youngkin
Governor

August 2, 2024

The Honorable Don Scott
Speaker of the House of Delegates
Commonwealth of Virginia
State Capitol
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Thank you for your letter regarding Dr. Lindsey Burke of Fairfax, Virginia. The Commonwealth is very fortunate that this outstanding Virginian and education expert has volunteered to serve on the George Mason University Board of Visitors. I have no intention of removing her as there is no basis for doing so.

As you know, Dr. Burke is a nationally recognized leader in education, with countless peer-reviewed articles and presentations that span early learning through postsecondary education. Additionally, she has testified before Congress and state legislative committees numerous times. Her impressive educational background includes a bachelor's degree in Politics from Hollins University, a Master of Teaching degree in Foreign Language Education from the University of Virginia, and a Ph.D. in Education policy from George Mason University.

Because of her extensive background in pre-school, K-12, and higher education policy, she was among my first higher education appointees. You and your colleagues in the General Assembly unanimously confirmed her appointment.¹ She has served faithfully on the Board of Visitors, participating in every board meeting since her appointment, and currently chairs the Academic Programs, Diversity and University Committee. She is respected by members of the Board of Visitors and has contributed to making George Mason University a premier educational research institution.

We need more outstanding Virginians stepping up to serve on our Boards of Visitors and other collegial bodies. Removing her would not only do a tremendous disservice to George Mason University, but it would also undermine the spirit of Virginians from all walks of life coming together to improve their community and their Commonwealth.

¹ [SJ 276, 2023 General Assembly Session](#)

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It is my understanding that you have never met her nor had a chance to talk with her. I hope you will meet with Dr. Burke if your schedule permits.

Sincerely,



Glenn Youngkin

cc: The Honorable Louise Lucas, President pro Tempore, Virginia Senate
The Honorable Luke Torian, Chairman of Appropriations, House of Delegates
The Honorable Todd Gilbert, Minority Leader, Virginia House of Delegates
The Honorable Ryan McDougle, Minority Leader, Virginia Senate