

July 9, 2021

Mr. Greg W. Stamps  
[REDACTED]

Condoleezza Rice  
*Tad and Dianne Taube Director,  
Thomas and Barbara Stephenson  
Senior Fellow on Public Policy*

Dear Greg,

Thank you so much for your valuable support of the Hoover Institution. Your engagement enables us to do important work in advancing ideas that promote personal liberty and sustain the vitality of our representative form of government. It is on these pillars that our founder, President Herbert Hoover, affirmed that humanity can best prosper and inspire ingenuity.

Throughout America's almost 250-year history, our democracy has been fiercely tested by the threats from adversaries abroad and social unrest at home. Each step of the way, the nation has proved more resilient, and has ultimately expanded the cause of freedom and allowed more people to enjoy the fruits of prosperity.

As the nation emerges from COVID-19, we still face a series of daunting challenges. Again, I am confident that we will pick up the pieces and emerge from this crisis a stronger and wiser nation than we were before. To this end, the Hoover Institution is committed to producing quality policy research. We continue to broaden our senior fellowship with scholars who are leading thinkers in their respective fields. As well, we provide actionable solutions to policy makers at all levels of government and other important stakeholders in our society.

This year, the fellows have focused their research on issues essential to a free society, including improving our education system to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, maintaining the nation's edge in an increasingly competitive world, enhancing our democratic institutions so that they are more responsive to citizens, revitalizing Americans' historical and civic understanding, and promoting civil and constructive discourse among people with differing views and ideas.

The year of pandemic has placed a disproportionate burden on America's younger generations. Millions of students nationwide were forced to study at home and incurred drastic learning losses that will reduce their lifetime earnings. Minority youth are likely to suffer the greatest consequences of school closures. This is why Hoover's education scholars are currently partnering with policy leaders to affect change across the country. Through exhaustive research, derived from the best available data about teacher and student performance, fellows are offering recommendations for reducing long-term educational and economic harm. Their work also includes guidance to policy leaders on expanding access to quality school-choice opportunities for lower-income families.

Another key to American greatness has been our freedom and capacity for innovation. However, in recent years this strength has been exploited by our adversaries through tactics such as cyberattacks on our technological infrastructure and efforts to undermine our democracy through pervasive

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disinformation campaigns on the social media platforms built by Hoover's neighbors in Silicon Valley. Through our working group on Technology, Economics, and Governance, our scholars are exploring answers to a crucial question: how can America maintain its technological edge while adapting to the disruptions it causes in our democratic institutions and in peoples' daily lives?

If there is another crucial lesson of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's how we reimagine our security and economic partnerships. While much of the world was preoccupied with containing the deadly disease within their borders, the People's Republic of China became ever more aggressive on the world stage. Hoover has several active research initiatives aimed at addressing the China challenge. The National Security Task Force's Indo-Pacific Security Dialogue is currently researching how America can enhance security and economic cooperation in this important geostrategic battleground. Another initiative explores the untapped potential of India, the world's largest democracy, as a partner of the United States in helping ensure that the Indo-Pacific region remains stable, free, and open.

The Hoover Institution is also committed to the idea that policies that spur economic growth and innovation are not solely the domain of the federal government. Significant policy making occurs at the state and local levels, where governments are closer to citizens and more responsive to their concerns and aspirations. Last year, Hoover fellows began a partnership with my home state of Alabama to research ways its leaders can improve the skills of their workers and make the state a hub for technological innovation. Our goal is to take this model to other states across the country, where we can help affect meaningful policy change and improve the lives of ordinary Americans.

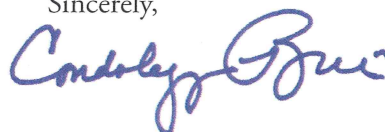
The philosopher George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." It is in this similar spirit that Herbert Hoover originally established the institution as a repository of historical records about war and peacetime. Today our renowned Library & Archives holds among the world's most important historical collections, enabling our fellowship, as well as outside scholars, to educate present and future generations about valuable lessons from the past.

Greg, it is through your support that we are able to conduct consequential research on the public policy challenges that confront our nation. Your commitment also helps communicate ideas and solutions to the attentive public through our engagement in national media, and with congressional officials through our New Members Leadership Forum in Washington, DC.

What's also integral is your support in the education of future policy leaders. Our annual Summer Policy Boot Camp and internship programs attract some of the best and brightest students and young professionals. Our Policy Education video content, geared toward high school and college audiences, also attracts tens of millions of viewers per year.

In closing, I wanted to say again how proud I am to work with you and lead our institution during these extraordinary times of challenge but also great opportunity. Our free society can only get stronger through your continued engagement and our ability to inspire others to be committed to what our founder articulated over 60 years ago about the mission of the Hoover Institution: to "constantly and dynamically point the road to peace, to personal freedom, and to the safeguards of the American system." Thank you for sharing this vision and being a wonderful part of fulfilling it.

Sincerely,



Condoleezza Rice