



February 28, 2019

U.S. Senator Rob Portman
Chairman
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
Committee on Homeland Security & Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

U.S. Senator Thomas Carper
Ranking Member
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
Committee on Homeland Security & Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Thank you for inviting CIUS to attend today's hearing and review your committee's report on Confucius Institutes in America. We were happy to play a small role in your investigation and are willing to further assist you, or the Administration, if we can in the future.

As I said in my meeting with your staff, I agree that more transparency will go a long way toward giving Americans more confidence in the language courses taught by Confucius Institutes. In fact, we are aware of a growing number of American universities that are renegotiating their contracts to remove confidentiality provisions. We believe strongly in the concept of Confucius Institutes and their ability to positively impact Americans by providing quality education in Chinese language and culture. As your report notes a quote from the Department of State: "Confucius Institutes have increased the level and quality of the study of Chinese language and culture in the U.S."

We know Congress and the Administration have several policy decisions they need to make on how bilateral language education fits within the foreign policy goals of the United States. We look forward to the resolution of your recommendations and will follow their results.

In closing, I would like to thank Mr. Jason Bair of the Government Accountability Office and the majority and minority staffs of your committee for the courtesies they showed me during my visits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gao Qing'.

Gao Qing
Executive Director