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Statement of Gloria Allred

This week the House of Representatives in Congress is expected to take a floor vote in support of or against the Department of Justice's releasing all of the files that it has not yet released to Congress into the investigation of Jeffrey Epstein and those who associated with him who may have enabled, supported or conspired with him to sexually abuse and/or sex traffic underage girls and adults.

For a long time, the survivors of Jeffrey Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell have been calling for the release of those files. While thousands of pages have been released to the House Oversight Committee as a result of a subpoena which they authorized, thousands more pages have not been provided by the Department of Justice even though polls show that the majority of Democrats, Independents, and Republicans in the public have supported the release of the files. The survivors have made it clear over and over again that they want transparency, and they want to know the whole truth concerning how Jeffrey Epstein and Ms. Maxwell were able to sexually victimize and sex traffic children and adults for such a long period of time.

Alicia Arden, who is here with me today, is the first victim of Jeffrey Epstein to have proof that she filed a police report because of what Epstein did to her but no prosecution of Epstein ever took place.

Alicia will explain how she feels about the upcoming vote in the House and the President's decision yesterday to tell House Republicans to vote to release the files.

After Alicia speaks, I will share my concerns about the latest development on this issue announced by the President, and how it may impact the survivors' desire to have all of the Department of Justice's files released.

First, however, I am honored to present Alicia Arden.

Statement of Alicia Arden

This has been an emotionally draining week for me and I am sure for many other survivors of Jeffrey Epstein. The current administration promised during the campaign to release the Jeffrey Epstein files, but all of the files were not released to the House Oversight Committee, even though the Committee had subpoenaed them. President Trump just told everyone to move on.

Then this week, revelations came out in emails from Jeffrey Epstein's estate which mentioned Mr. Trump. That same president who told us to move on

threatened a Republican member of Congress who refused to change her vote in support of the survivors.

When it became clear that many Republicans wanted to vote to release the files, then the President changed his position and has now told Republicans in the House to vote for the Department of Justice files to be released.

The events of last week have been a slap in the face to the victims who are just searching for justice in this matter. The only thing we really learned from last week is that those in Washington are more concerned with playing political games than they are with being honest with the American people and helping the victims of Jeffrey Epstein and Ms. Maxwell.

This week the House of Representatives will finally have the opportunity to decide if the Epstein files will be released. Speaking as one of the victims, I beg you to release these files once and for all. There is no valid reason for refusing to do so. You can't claim that it is to protect the victims when it is the victims who have been calling for the files to be released. This should be an easy bi-partisan issue. Why would there be a single No vote? My hope is that finally these files will be released, those who were complicit in Jeffrey Epstein's crimes will be named, and the American public will get the transparency they have been promised and which they deserve.

But, if the House does not vote to release the files, it will be disappointing to all of us. What reason could they possibly have for keeping this information a

secret unless it is to protect themselves at the expense of the victims and the public? The more we are denied the files, the more we assume that the very politicians who vote no appear to be doing so to hide the facts for their own political or personal reasons.

So, I once again appeal to the members of the House. Vote to release these files so that we can finally see who else helped Jeffrey Epstein and who else victimized so many children and adults.

Gloria Allred continues:

Thank you, Alicia. I would like to begin by thanking the President for urging the Republicans in the House to vote to support the discharge petition and on the floor to release the Epstein files.

However, I am concerned with what the President has not said.

First, he has not explained to the public that a vote to release the files is not really necessary. The House Oversight Committee has already subpoenaed the files, and some of the files but not all of them, have been released. The Committee could seek a vote holding the DOJ in contempt but most likely they do not have enough votes to take that step. Further, the DOJ could have released all of the files voluntarily. They did not need a vote in Congress or a subpoena to do that.

However, because they have not released all of the files, certain members of Congress wanted to vote on this issue and now they will have an opportunity to do that. If the House votes to support the release of the files, the issue will then go to the Senate for a vote. I note that the President has not urged the Senators to vote to release the files. Even if the Senators do vote in favor of the release, the bill will then go to the President, and the President has not indicated that he would sign such a bill.

Further complicating all this is that the President has directed the Department of Justice to investigate high-level Democrats who are mentioned in the Epstein files. Attorney General Pam Bondi said she would do that, and she directed the Justice Department's office in the Southern District of New York to open that investigation.

Will any Republicans whose names are in the files and who were associated with Jeffrey Epstein also have their names be released, or will their names be withheld? Will the release of names of Democrats in the files contaminate any future prosecution of those individuals named in the files? Also, Democrats who are being investigated should be able to argue selective prosecution which appears to be political persecution.

There are many more questions that flow from the President's statements and lack of answers to other important questions.

The road to full transparency will be a long one, but I feel that the courage of survivors to persevere will help us to find the answers to many questions that they have. I look forward to as much justice as is still possible for all of the brave survivors.

Statement of Attorney Gloria Allred

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