

July 27, 2018

The Honorable Cory Gardner  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Scott Tipton  
218 Cannon House Office  
Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette  
2111 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jared Polis  
1727 Longworth House  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Coffman  
2443 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ken Buck  
1130 Longworth House Office  
Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ed Perlmutter  
1410 Longworth House  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Doug Lamborn  
2402 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Colorado Delegation of the United States House of Representatives:

Here at Regis University, Colorado's Jesuit, Catholic university, we encourage our students to not merely understand social problems, but to take action to address them. This summer, scores of Nicaraguans have gone into the streets of Managua to protest the Sandinista government's ongoing massacre of its own people. As of July 18, the government-backed paramilitary has murdered 351 people and injured countless others. I write to ask you to take action.

Pope Francis has urged that the "pointless shedding of blood be avoided and that open issues be resolved peacefully and with a sense of responsibility." We concur that actions must be taken now against the deadly oppression of the Nicaraguan people at the hands of President Ortega. Although state-sponsored violence in Nicaragua is undeniable, the United States has not taken significant steps to help halt the violence against opposition groups or cease the political repression, violence and murder of Nicaraguan citizens.

We beseech you to use your position of influence to spur action by the State Department to coordinate and develop a peace-oriented plan now to end this violence and to prepare more sanctions against Ortega's government if it refuses to halt its atrocities. We must demand peace, justice and a restoration of human rights for the people of Nicaragua.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J.  
President  
Regis University