

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 24, 2024

Colette Peters
Director
Federal Bureau of Prisons
U.S. Department of Justice
320 First Street NW
Washington, DC 20534

Dear Director Peters:

We write to address several alarming and disturbing reports related to the closure of Bureau of Prisons (“BOP” or the “Bureau”) facility Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Dublin and the subsequent transfer of hundreds of women in BOP custody over the course of this last week.

Given the gravity of the concerns laid out below, we request that BOP take *immediate* action to ensure that individuals remaining in custody at FCI Dublin and the hundreds of women currently in transit from FCI Dublin receive appropriate medical attention and proper care, as required by the Constitution, federal laws, BOP policy, and the dictates of common decency.

Since BOP announced the closure of FCI Dublin on Monday, April 15, and began to transfer the more than 600 individuals in custody out of the facility, concerned stakeholders and advocates have made alarming reports about the ensuing chaos. These reports include: unavailability of medical staff; inadequate-to-no medical attention, including for individuals expressing suicidal ideation; improper medical clearance prior to transport; lack of food and water for those remaining in the facility awaiting transfer; mistreatment, harassment, neglect, and abuse while in transit; and confiscation of personal property.

This reporting is appalling and even more concerning in light of the well-documented abuses that have taken place previously at FCI Dublin. Individuals in custody at FCI Dublin have long endured a toxic carceral culture marked by sexual assault, harassment, and medical neglect at the hands of BOP staff. And now, while subjected to the deprivations and indignities of a flawed and rushed closure and transfer protocol, women in custody are reporting hostility and retaliation from BOP employees who blame them for the facility’s closure. This is unacceptable.

Together with our colleagues, we will exercise the oversight authority of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and the Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism over the Bureau to continue to closely monitor the closure of FCI Dublin. We request that BOP immediately provide information on how it prepared to close the facility, including BOP’s written plans and guidance to staff at FCI Dublin for the safe and humane release from custody or transfer of individuals to other BOP facilities.

Given the exigency of this unfolding crisis, we request immediate action and an update **today** on efforts the Bureau is taking to ensure that those in your custody who are affected by the closure of FCI Dublin are afforded the care, dignity, and respect to which they are entitled.

Sincerely,



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



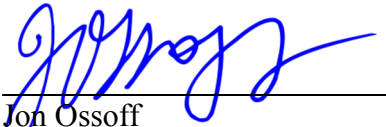
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Raphael G. Butler
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator