

JOYCE BEATTY
OHIO, 3RD DISTRICT

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JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

1ST VICE CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3503

2303 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4324-PHONE
(202) 225-1984-FAX

471 E. BROAD STREET, SUITE 1100
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215
(614) 220-0003-PHONE
(614) 220-5640-FAX

Beatty.house.gov

June 19, 2019

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary
United States Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

In 2017, I sent your office a letter in order to start a dialogue with you on the important issue of moving forward with plans to place former slave and abolitionist, Harriet Tubman, on the front of the new \$20 bill. Today, nearly two years later, I am disappointed with your failure to commit to following the plan to place a woman on the \$20 bill and foiling the will of the people of placing Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill.

As one of the earliest advocates in Congress for placing a woman on the \$20 bill, this issue is of great importance to me. In addition to sponsoring legislation in the 114th Congress to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to convene a panel of private citizens to seek public input and report to Congress which woman should appear on the \$20 bill, I also was heavily involved in and participated in Secretary Lew's 2016 announcement to place Harriet Tubman on the front of the new \$20 bill. This is an issue that I will continue to champion while in Congress and I hope you will join this effort.


I was extremely troubled when you failed to commit to follow through with former-Treasury Secretary Lew's well-laid plans to place Harriet Tubman on the front of the new \$20, with the design released to the public in 2020, in response to a question at the May 22, 2019, hearing in the Committee on Financial Services. I was further troubled by allegations in a recent *New York Times* article entitled, "See a Design of the Harriet Tubman \$20 Bill That Mnuchin Delayed," which featured a previously unreleased conceptual design of a new \$20 bill produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, prominently featuring a portrait of Harriet Tubman on the front. In that same article, an anonymous employee claimed to have "personally viewed a metal engraving plate and digital image of a Tubman \$20 bill...as recently as May 2018." The article also states that

current and former department officials said that it was your decision to delay the unveiling in fear that President Trump would cancel the plan.

While I understand U.S. currency is primarily redesigned for security reasons, it is extremely important that our currency reflect the diversity and achievements of a variety of prominent Americans. Therefore, I urge you to publicly affirm your Department's previously announced plans to feature Harriet Tubman on the face of the redesigned \$20 bill and to release a design to the public during next year's centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment in 2020.

Will you reaffirm the Treasury Department's plans announced on April 20, 2016 to publicly unveil the final concept design for the new \$20 bill in 2020? Additionally, can you confirm or deny the existence a metal engraving plate and/or digital image of a \$20 bill with Harriet Tubman on the front?

Sincerely,


Congresswoman Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress, OH-03