Exhibit D



June 19, 2018

Raynell Lazier
FOIA Manager
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
Email: CFPB FOIA@consumerfinance.gov

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, Allied Progress requests access to and copies of certain correspondence from the following CFPB employees:

- Mick Mulvaney
- Eric Blankenstein
- Ann Conant
- John Czwartacki
- James Reilly Dolan
- Emma Doyle
- James Galkowski
- Sheila Greenwood
- Brian Johnson
- Halle Morgan
- Kirsten Sutton Mork
- Jonathan Slemrod
- Anthony Welcher

Specifically, we request all emails sent by, sent to, or carbon copying ("CC") any of the listed individuals that were sent by, sent to, or CC'ed Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Associate Director Kathy Kraninger between and including March 1, 2017, and the date this request is processed. This should include all emails sent to or from any email address associated with Ms. Kraninger and should not be limited to her primary OMB email address.

If possible, I would prefer to receive this information electronically via e-mail at karl.frisch@alliedprogress.org. If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at (202) 644-8526.

Fee Waiver Request

Allied Progress requests a waiver of fees because it qualifies for classification as a "news media" requester, responsible only for duplication fees under FOIA's fee assessment

provisions. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Federal Communications Commission have previously recognized this status in light of the regular publication and dissemination activities in which Allied Progress engages. Allied Progress will use the information gathered, and its analysis of it, to educate the public through reports, press releases, or other media. Allied Progress will also make materials it gathers available on its public website.

The disclosure of the requested information is also "in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding" of government operations and is not "primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." The disclosure of the information sought under this request will document and reveal the operations of the federal government, including how public funds are spent and how officials conduct the public's business.

It was recently reported that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), an agency charged with protecting consumers from predatory financial entities. ¹ Since November, the CFPB has been led by "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney, who has made substantive changes to the agency's structure and policies, even going so far as to change its mission statement. Allied Progress is working to ensure that the next CFPB director does not continue eroding the agency as Mulvaney has done.

Currently, the public has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. This request seeks to determine the scope of Ms. Kraninger's work at the OMB, including her work on consumer protection issues, and the requested materials will be used to inform the public about Ms. Kraninger in the context of her expected CFPB nomination.

This request is primarily and fundamentally for non-commercial purposes. As a project of a 501(c)(3) organization, Allied Progress does not have a commercial purpose and the release of the information requested is not in Allied Progress's financial interest. Allied Progress's mission is to give voice to hard-working Americans by standing up to Wall Street and other powerful special interests and holding their allies in Congress and the White House accountable.

Accordingly, Allied Progress qualifies for a fee waiver.

Expedited Processing Request

It was first reported late afternoon Friday, June 15, 2018, that President Donald Trump is expected to nominate OMB Associate Director Kathy Kraninger to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).² As soon as her nomination becomes official, the Senate may hold a confirmation vote at any time. "Acting Director" Mick Mulvaney has vowed to make the CFPB "permanently accountable and transparent."³ However, the public currently

¹ Lalita Clozel, "<u>Kathy Kraninger to Be Nominated to Head Consumer Financial Protection</u> <u>Bureau</u>," *The Wall Street Journal*, 06/16/18

² Elizabeth Dexheimer, Robert Schmidt, and Jennifer Jacobs, "<u>Trump Favors Little-Known Official to Be Next CFPB Chief</u>," *Bloomberg*, 06/15/18

³ Lydia Wheeler, "Mulvaney fires back after Warren questions CFPB leadership," *The Hill,* 04/05/18

has very little information on Ms. Kraninger, as her work has primarily been outside of the public eye. It is urgent that the public has access to records concerning the potential nominee, so they can make their voices heard about this crucial government position.

Allied Progress certifies these facts are true and correct and requests expedited processing for this reason.

Conclusion

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. Additionally, if any documents are withheld based on the Agency's interpretation of any exemption, Allied Progress requests that you provide an index of those documents as required under *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), *cert. denied*, 415 U.S. 977 (1974). Specifically, this *Vaughn* index should describe withheld documents with enough specificity to determine whether the material is exempt under the act and must describe each document or portion withheld.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Karl Frisch

Executive Director Allied Progress