## ACCOUNTABLE

Thursday, February 4, 2021

David Skaggs Chair Office of Congressional Ethics U.S. House of Representatives 425 3rd Street, S.W. Suite 1110 Washington, DC 20024

Re: Requesting Investigation of Rep. Lauren Boebert

Dear Chair Skaggs,

As president of government watchdog Accountable.US, I write to you today to express concerns over recent reports about the exorbitant travel expenses of Representative Lauren Boebert of Colorado. As the *Denver Post* reported this week, ethics experts who have reviewed the issue say it raises serious questions.

During the 2020 election cycle, Rep. Boebert reimbursed herself over \$22,000 for "mileage" expenses, which suggests she claimed more than 38,000 miles as campaign expenses — the equivalent of driving around the entire planet, plus an additional 14,000 miles. Even worse, this purported travel was in the midst of a pandemic and she had no publicly advertised campaign events during several months of the campaign.

While the Federal Elections Commission allows candidates to reimburse themselves for travel costs, it requires that they log travel costs if they are mixing campaign and personal travel. It is unclear if such logs were kept. When questioned about the reimbursements, Rep. Boebert's campaign defended the expenses without providing evidence to suggest she drove 38,711 miles for campaign purposes.

Rep. Boebert's curious campaign travel expenses warrant an immediate investigation by the Office of Congressional Ethics. She has refused to provide exculpatory evidence to the public, so it is critical she is held to account for this potential abuse of campaign funds.

Thank you in advance for looking into this matter.

Sincerely,

President
Accountable.US