

HAROLD ROGERS  
5TH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS  
RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1705

August 21, 2020

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2406 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1705  
(202) 225-4601

DISTRICT OFFICES:

551 CLIFTY STREET  
SOMERSET, KY 42503  
(606) 679-8346 OR  
1-800-632-8588

48 SOUTH KENTUCKY HIGHWAY 15  
HAZARD, KY 41701  
(606) 439-0794

110 RESOURCE COURT  
SUITE A  
PRESTONSBURG, KY 41653  
(606) 886-0844

Frontier Nursing University  
2050 Lexington Road  
Versailles, KY 40383

Dear Directors of the FNU Board,

I write to you today on behalf of countless constituents in Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District who have reached out to my office concerning the removal of a beloved 15<sup>th</sup> century stained-glass window at St. Christopher's Chapel on the original campus in Hyden, Kentucky. I join the people of Leslie County who are calling on the FNU Board of Directors to return the original stained-glass window to its rightful place at St. Christopher's Chapel, where Mary Breckinridge's mission of love first began.

It is my understanding that the Frontier Nursing University recently removed the stained-glass window and moved it to the new campus in Versailles, Kentucky without providing any communication to local leaders in Leslie County. The stained-glass window is well-documented as a gift from Dr. Preston Satterwhite of New York to be placed in the small stone chapel, serving as the original headquarters, which was built by the people of Leslie County. Quite frankly, the action taken by this board to quietly remove the stained-glass window, as well as the educational operations from Leslie County, does not align with Mary Breckinridge's legendary heart of service and courageous action for the Appalachian people.

As you well know, the legacy of Mary Breckinridge's selfless service to mothers and babies in Kentucky's rural Appalachian region is a cherished part of Leslie County's history, which continues to richly influence continued access to quality healthcare in our region. Mary Breckinridge pioneered a selfless passion for healthcare that often gets lost in a world of greed today. Her courage of conviction to brave the mountainsides and cross rushing waters on horseback just to help mothers and babies in one of the most impoverished parts of the country continues to inspire rural healthcare providers even now.

I stand with the people of Leslie County and request that the original stained-glass window be replaced at St. Christopher's Chapel, so the window "high up on Thousandsticks Mountain, will glow in the light of the morning sun," as intended by Mary Breckinridge. I applaud your foresight to have a replica made of the stained-glass window and encourage you to use it in Versailles, Kentucky.

Sincerely,

HAROLD "HAL" ROGERS  
Member of Congress