

**BOBBY L. RUSH**

1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE**

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER, ENERGY  
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

**ASSISTANT WHIP**



**CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON

2188 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1301

CHICAGO

11750 SOUTH WESTERN AVENUE  
CHICAGO, IL 60643-4732

HTTP://RUSH.HOUSE.GOV  
FACEBOOK.COM/CONGRESSMANBOBBYRUSH  
TWITTER: @REPBobbyRUSH

October 31, 2018

Mr. Brian Cornell  
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
Target Corporation  
1000 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Dear Mr. Cornell:

I am writing to express serious concern and disapproval regarding your recent decision to close two Target stores in the City of Chicago. Your closure of these stores is a classic example of persistent disinvestment on the Southside of Chicago.

Both stores, located in the Chatham and Morgan Park communities, meet retail and grocery needs that are vital to the neighborhood residents who I represent. By closing them, your corporation is leaving a gaping hole of retail services as these communities have few options. The closest Target will now be five to six miles away. You are also creating a hardship for residents, many of whom are senior citizens and working families, who need retail options near their homes.

According to Tuesday's edition of the Chicago Tribune, your decision to close these stores, ... *follows a rigorous annual process to evaluate the performance of every store in the portfolio and maintain the overall health of the business.* So, according to Target Corporation, these stores are underperforming. However, in speaking with community leadership, elected officials, and in my own personal experience, there is no empirical evidence to suggest these sites are underperforming. In fact, they shared experiences with me that are quite the contrary. Residents described long lines and full parking lots, day and night, winter and summer, making your decision to close shocking and bewildering.

Additionally, the Chatham and Morgan Park neighborhoods have very longstanding, strong community leadership and business associations that are eager to engage and capable of assisting your management in addressing any existing business concerns. They are deeply disappointed and dismayed that the decision to close these stores was made without any conversation or notification of their leadership.

On behalf of my constituents, I strongly urge the postponement of the store closures and request a meeting with you, or your key designee, and the community leaders. I invite you to offer a presentation of the performance evaluation data for these stores; and encourage you to engage with the community to seek a course of action that leaves the stores open.

**BOBBY L. RUSH**  
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER, ENERGY  
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

ASSISTANT WHIP



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON  
2188 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1301

CHICAGO  
11750 SOUTH WESTERN AVENUE  
CHICAGO, IL 60643-4732

HTTP://RUSH.HOUSE.GOV  
FACEBOOK.COM/CONGRESSMANBOBBYRUSH  
TWITTER: @REPBobbyRUSH

Mr. Brian Cornell  
October 31, 2018  
Page 2

As you know, Target Corporation states: *Our purpose and values work together to foster connections and conversations both inside and outside our doors.* I ask that you carefully contemplate this statement when taking this request under consideration.

Sincerely,

Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

CC: Roxanne Austin  
Douglas Baker, Jr.  
Calvin Darden  
Henrique De Castro  
Robert Edwards  
Melanie Healey  
Donald Knauss  
Monica Lozano  
Mary Minnick  
Kenneth Salazar  
Dmitri Stockton