

November 15, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

I ran for the Senate because, like each of you, I have core beliefs and would like to improve our country. While I might vote a different way than you at times, I respect each of you, your votes and your commitment to your respective states.

I'm writing to you today because I believe it's time for the Senate Republican Conference to be far more bold and resolute than we have been in the past. We must start saying what we are for, not just what we are against. I do not believe we can simply continue to say the Democrats are radical, which they are. Republican voters expect and deserve to know our plan to promote and advance conservative values. We need to listen to their calls for action and start governing in Washington like we campaign back at home. There is a Republican Party that is alive and well in communities across America. It is time there is one in Washington, D.C., too. That is why I am running to be Republican Leader.

Like each of you, I am deeply disappointed by the results of the recent election. Despite what the armchair quarterbacks on TV will tell you, there is no one person responsible for our party's performance across the country. I know there is no shortage of people who are eager to point fingers and assign blame here in Washington, but I won't be one of them. It's unproductive and a massive waste of time. We know that chief among our problems in races across America was a lack of Republican voter turnout. There may be many reasons for that, but after travelling the country to support our candidates I believe voters want a plan. They are begging us to tell them what we will do when we are in charge. Unfortunately, we have continued to elect leadership who refuses to do that and elicits attacks on anyone that does. That is clearly not working and it's time for bold change. The voters are demanding it.

Since my first week in the Senate, I have listened to complaints about how the Senate operates. Some say there is not a way for their views to be heard. Some say we should work to unite Republicans and not Democrats. Some say we should use regular order to pass bills, which would give Senators the opportunity to debate amendments on the floor and provide input into legislation. Some are concerned we are not passing budgets or prioritizing spending bills. Some are concerned we don't do enough to force votes on priorities with majority support in our Conference. Some believe we don't have a positive message to run on. Some believe we don't hold the executive branch

accountable. Some believe we constantly give in to the Democrats and have no backbone. Some believe we should not make deals with Chuck Schumer that a majority of our Conference members disagree with. Some question why we are presented large spending bills we have never read or had input into and are expected to vote for them on short notice to prevent a government shutdown. Some wonder why we have little coordination with Republican House members. Some feel pressured to vote for bills that are either against their core beliefs and what they campaigned on or against the best interests of their state. Some believe Republican donor funds are only used to help those who support leadership. Some believe we don't take advantage of the opportunities presented to move the Republican message forward. And then there are some that are happy with the way things are going.

I understand that I won't gain the support of every member of our Conference, but we all have a clear choice to make. If you simply want to stick with the status quo, don't vote for me.

For those who want to get serious about ending reckless government spending and the devastating inflation it has caused, finally take action to protect Social Security and Medicare and preserve the promise of these programs for our children and grandchildren, hold government accountable from the FBI to the IRS, truly combat the extreme danger posed by Communist China and refocus our military on lethal defense instead of woke nonsense, I ask for your support in changing the direction of the Senate and rescuing America from the dangerous path Democrats have set it on. I look forward to having the opportunity to meet with each of you to discuss your priorities and collaborate on how we can achieve this vision.

Regardless of who we choose to be Republican Leader, I believe that we should treat this as a job interview and demand anyone running for a position of leadership in our conference to be transparent and explain why they deserve our support. If elected Leader, I promise you the following:

- 1. I will always remember you elected me, and I will work with each of you to accomplish your goals.
- 2. I will work tirelessly to help elect all Republican Senators, whether they are likely to support me or not.
- 3. I will never surprise you with legislation and ask that you vote on something you haven't had an opportunity to review.
- 4. I will always work to be transparent with each of you and to bring the conference together.
- 5. I will work with each of you to advance Republican priorities and, when possible, force Democrats to vote on our bills.
- 6. I will lead the conference in developing a positive, aspirational agenda that outlines our legislative goals and what Senate Republicans stand for.
- 7. I will engage with the Republican House to pass Republican priorities.

8. I will never pressure you to vote in a way that is counter to what you campaigned on or not in the best interests of your state.

I humbly ask for your vote as your next Republican Leader.

Respectfully,

Rick Scott