

A DISPATCH FROM THE COALITION

To the Democratic Party: *the country is listening.*

So are we. The voters who knock on doors, make the calls, and turn out every November have something to say. Read the letter. Carry it forward. Add your name.

FROM The American People YOU swore to protect.
TO Party leadership & elected officials

To our elected representatives, party leadership, and those who carry the banner of the Democratic Party:

We are writing to you not as opposition, but as the people who built the coalitions that put you in office. We are the volunteers, the small-dollar donors, the precinct captains, and the millions of voters who turn out election after election because we believe — still — that this party can be the vehicle for the country we were promised.

We are writing because belief alone is not enough, and because too many recent moments have left us watching values spoken but not defended. The coalition that carries you is broad: working families, organized labor, the historically excluded, the newly enfranchised, and millions of Americans who simply want a government that does its job. That coalition deserves more than a managed defense of the status quo.

“We did not vote for caution. We voted for the country we were promised.”

The opposition has been clear about what they intend to do. Clarity is not their failing. We need you to be at least as clear about what you intend to stop them from doing — and about what you intend to build in its place. Half-measures, focus-grouped into shape, will not meet this moment.

So we are putting our requests in writing. Plainly, so they cannot be misheard.

WE ASK, IN PLAIN TERMS

01 Defend democracy as if you mean it.

Protect the right to vote, the integrity of every count, and the institutions that make free elections possible. Treat threats to democratic norms as the emergencies they are — not as talking points to be rotated through a news cycle.

02 Fight for working people, not just for their votes.

Affordable healthcare, livable wages, the right to organize, housing a teacher can afford, child care that does not bankrupt a family. Stop trading these for soundbites about civility and consensus.

03 Lead on climate, before there is nothing left to lead on.

The science has been settled for a generation. Match the urgency with policy that actually moves the country off the path we are on, and stop pretending the timeline is negotiable.

04 Match your rhetoric on civil rights with action.

Codify protections that the courts will not. Speak the names of those failed by the system. Govern as if every life under your jurisdiction is equal under the law — because that is what you told us you believed.

05 Hold the line on the rule of law.

No one is above it, and no political calculation is worth pretending otherwise. The standard you set today is the precedent your opponents will use tomorrow. Choose carefully.

We will keep showing up. We will keep voting. We will keep organizing in the places this party has too often forgotten. In return, we ask only that you do the same — visibly, consistently, and without the constant retreat to the middle of a field that has moved out from under us.

This letter is not a threat. It is a record. You will know that the coalition was paying attention. You will know what we asked. And you will know what we were willing to do, on our end, to help you answer.

Signed, with conviction,

The American People

YOU swore to protect

AND FAILED.

A DISPATCH FROM THE COALITION · JUNE 2026

Open Letter to the Democratic Leadership of the United States Congress

Jun 12, 2026

To the Pathetic Democratic Leaders and Members of the United States Congress and Senate:

This is not a polite request. This is not another donor letter you can forward to staff and forget. **This is a reckoning.**

For nearly a decade, Donald Trump has dismantled norms, abused power, and treated the Constitution as a suggestion. During his first term, he tore through rules, laws, and regulations with impunity. And you, democrats—lowercase intentional—sat in your offices, wringing your hands, hiding behind procedural excuses and explaining that your power was “limited.”

Then Joe Biden won. You were handed four years. Four years to lock in guardrails, codify protections, restrict the unitary executive, constrain the office an immunity-friendly Court was rapidly expanding, and immunize the Republic from a second Trump takeover. Instead, you coasted. You exhaled. You returned to your comfortable lifestyles, collected your \$174,000-and-up paychecks funded by working Americans, and—at best—talked.

You did not act. You did not legislate. You did not campaign for democracy itself.

Now Trump has signed more than 265 executive orders since January 20, 2025—more than the 220 he signed across his entire first term, and more than the 162 Joe Biden signed in his presidency. The result is precisely what every Democratic operative warned us about: a president governing by decree, gutting agencies, redirecting congressional appropriations, ignoring federal court rulings, and waging unauthorized war in Iran without so much as a War Powers vote in your chamber.

FAILURES OF DUTY

- You waited two years before pursuing any meaningful accountability for Trump’s first term. Time ran out, and you let it.

- You allowed President Biden to remain on the ticket while ignoring his visible decline, then handed Kamala Harris fewer than four months to mount a campaign against a man you yourselves had spent four years calling an existential threat to the Republic.
- You watched Trump's own Supreme Court appointees hand him sweeping presidential immunity—and did nothing structurally to constrain the office that ruling expanded.
- You allowed a \$170 billion immigration enforcement package to fund the quadrupling of ICE arrests, the five-fold surge in interior deportations, denaturalization quotas of 200 per month, and the disappearance of legal residents to CECOT in El Salvador with no due process. And, innocent Americans were killed.
- You watched federal judges issue ruling after ruling against this administration—on elections, on detention, on habeas corpus, on appropriations—and you offered hashtags instead of legislation, statements instead of subpoenas, fundraising emails instead of force.
- **You knew the danger. You chose the safety of your seats.**

THE PANHANDLING MUST STOP

While all of this unfolded, your fundraising apparatus never slept. Every news cycle was a “crisis.” Every Trump signature was an “emergency.” These issues are real and because of YOU but, every weekend brought another flood of begging texts and doomsday emails.

“✗ SLASH funding for Medicare”
“✗ Issue pardons for INSURRECTIONISTS”
“✗ THREATEN Social Security”
“✗ WAR with Iran”
“✗ Jared and Ivanka Kushner's resort island”
“✗ Trump organization's manipulation of crypto”
“✗ Over \$600 Million to Donald Trump Jr.”
“✗ The BALLROOM”
“✗ The Reflecting pool”
“✗ UFC Fighting Octogon at the White House like Nero and the Gladiators”
“✗ Trump's SLUSH fund and his family's immunization from his current \$100M tax debt and forward”

“Will you rush \$5 to help us STRIP Trump’s immunity?”

“Defend the Vote is 500%-MATCHING Florida donations TODAY.”

How dare you. How dare your operatives at info@e.wedefendthevote.org, ActBlue, MoveOn, the DSCC, the DCCC, and every consultant-run “emergency” PAC operate panic farms aimed at the same struggling Americans whose Medicaid you couldn’t protect, whose voting rights you couldn’t secure, whose democracy you couldn’t be bothered to defend while you held the gavel.

You sit on guaranteed \$174,000 base salaries—with Speakers and party leaders drawing \$193,400 to \$223,500—plus gold-plated FERS pensions that can pay up to 80 percent of your highest three-year average for life, plus federal health coverage, plus a parade of perks. And yet you panhandle from people who cannot afford insulin, rent, or groceries. The same constituents you are sworn to defend. The same constituents who, against their own better judgment, sent you there in the first place.

If a “500% match” is real, use your own money. Use your spouses’ portfolios. Use your speaking fees, your book deals, your STOCK Act-laundered investments. Prove your “potential” with your own checkbook before you demand another five dollars from a family choosing between a cardiologist and the electric bill.

Why would any rational American throw good money after bad?

THE DOOMSAYING ECOSYSTEM

And it isn’t only the elected. The wider Democratic ecosystem—the cable anchors, the “experts,” the analysts, the pollsters, the strategists, the Substack-class doomayers—every one of them already drawing salaries, retainers, network paychecks, speaking fees, Patreon revenue, and book advances—spends each evening forecasting collapse and then asking the audience to chip in just \$10 or \$30 to “keep them on the air.”

You are paid professionals. Do the job you are already paid to do. Stop monetizing the fear you have a duty to inform. If your analysis has merit, fund it with your own platform; do not extract rent from the very viewers who depend on you to be honest.

EMPTY SYMBOLS, TOO LITTLE TOO LATE

Your “shows of courage” remain theater:

- **Chris Coons** with his optics.
- **Adam Schiff** and **Jamie Raskin** with eloquent soundbites and book tours.
- **Elizabeth Warren** with fiery speeches that move no votes.
- **Cory Booker** with marathon filibusters that change no laws.
- **Jasmine Crockett** trading eyelash insults with Marjorie Taylor Greene while the Republic burns.
- **Hakeem Jeffries** with carefully rehearsed press conferences and a caucus that won’t break a chair.
- **Chuck Schumer** green-lighting cloture votes that hand Trump everything he asks for—and then signing the next fundraising email.

All smoke. All mirrors. Cable-news highlight reels. **Not democracy defended.**

Meanwhile, the handful actually doing the work—Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez on their Fighting Oligarchy tour, Ilhan Omar holding town halls, Al Green being physically removed from the House floor for daring to interrupt the king’s address while the rest of you whispered in disgust—demonstrates what is possible when an elected official actually behaves like one. Even Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger, before they were exiled from their party, showed more spine at critical moments than most of you have shown in five years.

THE OVERREACH YOU ENABLED

Let us catalog, in plain English, what is happening this month—May 2026—while you fundraise:

- Trump’s elections executive order has been struck down in three federal courts as unconstitutional overreach. The administration is ignoring those rulings and proceeding anyway.
- ICE is operating a 73,000-person detention archipelago, holding people in conditions so harsh that detainees “self-deport” rather than wait for hearings.

- A nationwide class declaratory judgment in *Maldonado Bautista v. Noem* found the administration's no-bond detention policy illegal. The administration refuses to comply.
- Kilmar Ábrego García and dozens of others were deported to CECOT without due process. The Supreme Court intervened narrowly; the administration has slow-walked compliance.
- On May 5, 2026, DHS submitted its final rule eliminating F and J "duration of status" to OMB—upending the legal status of hundreds of thousands of students and exchange visitors.
- A war was launched in Iran on February 28, 2026, with no congressional authorization. The president attended a country-club PAC fundraiser that same evening, and his political committees later used an image from soldiers' dignified transfer at Dover Air Force Base to raise money.
- Birthright citizenship is under executive attack. A denaturalization quota of 200 people per month in 2026 is now public policy.
- FY 2026 appropriations lapses have agencies preparing Reduction-in-Force plans alongside contingency strategies—a euphemism for the dismantling of the civil service.
- Patel's "girlfriend?" Hegseth and Patel's drunken performances while in office?
- The entire Trump friends and family discount for a China visit paid by us?

And the Democratic congressional response? *A statement. A floor speech. A "rush \$5" email.*

THE COST OF YOUR INACTION

Public optimism is at historic lows. Voter enthusiasm has cratered. The DNC, the DCCC, the DSCC, and their allied super PACs have been outraised by their Republican counterparts; the GOP and MAGA Inc. sit on roughly \$850 million in cash on hand heading into the midterms. Worse, several of your own Senate contenders accepted first-quarter 2026 contributions from the very donors who funded Trump's new East Wing ballroom—the literal monument to oligarchy you claim to oppose.

You did not merely allow this. You created the conditions for it. Through complacency. Through negligence. Through cowardice. Through fundraising that prioritized the consultant class over the country.

Republicans bring a flamethrower to a knife fight. You don't show up—or worse, you show up with a potluck dish and a press release. And when you do show up, it is for the camera, the clip, and the next ActBlue ask.

Remember what you swore:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely..."

Remember that? Now, with Trump operating as a self-anointed sovereign and a litany of sycophants seizing federal power, you lament the system—you blame the courts, the moderates, the voters, the polling, the consultants. **This crisis is not the system's. It is yours**, built from complacency, negligence, and the resultant incompetence.

THE ULTIMATUM

The country is enraged. The Republic is bleeding. And you, the Democratic leadership, bear the majority of the blame at this point.

This is your last chance. Act like leaders. Honor your oath. Campaign for democracy, not just yourselves. Stop begging the working poor for money while sitting on six-figure salaries, lifetime pensions, and platinum healthcare. Stop hiding behind rhetoric. Stop ending every email with a donate button instead of a bill number.

Because if you do not:

- ▶ **We will show up.**
- ▶ **We will confront you.**
- ▶ **We will completely expose you.**
- ▶ **We will make sure every American knows exactly where the blame belongs.**

THE FINAL WORD

Do something—anything—real, substantive, and worthy of the office you hold. Or step aside, walk away, and carry the Scarlet Letter of the party that surrendered American democracy without a fight.

Visit our initiative. Engage. Show up. The “We care for the little guy” Pandora’s box has been pried open for good—and the little guy has read the contents.

You will be exposed.

Signed, with conviction,

The American People

YOU swore to protect

AND FAILED.