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

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NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

October 31, 2023

[REDACTED]
Yardley, PA [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for sharing your thoughts on the recent House leadership election. Your input is a key part of the legislative process, and I appreciate the opportunity to hear your concerns.

On October 3, 2023, the cause of bipartisanship, and the institution of Congress, took a major hit when a small group of extremists, aided and abetted by a larger group of enablers, put their personal grievances and political interests ahead of our country and voted to vacate the Speaker's Chair for the first time in American history, a seat which had been occupied by Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California. This Motion to Vacate was brought in retaliation for Speaker McCarthy bringing a bipartisan bill to the floor that saved our country from a government shutdown—the type of leadership that should be rewarded, not punished. As a result of their actions, the Legislative Branch of government was essentially offline for three full weeks, at a time when two wars were raging, and with only twenty-nine days remaining on our government funding continuing resolution. This Speaker vacancy posed a serious threat to both our economic and national security.

On October 20, 2023, I voted in favor of Temporary Speaker Patrick McHenry, and against Jim Jordan, because I believed that Temporary Speaker McHenry would have had the broadest bipartisan appeal across the Congress to get the necessary votes to re-open the People's House and address the many crises, both at home and abroad, that were confronting our nation. After multiple rounds of voting with multiple candidates, Rep. Mike Johnson of Louisiana was ultimately elected Speaker.

As the Co-Chair of the Bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, my top priority was to re-open our government in order to support two of our allies who desperately need our help, Israel and Ukraine. This is why, after three weeks of voting, this vacancy, which never should have existed to begin with, had to be filled immediately. We could not afford another day with the lights out in the House of Representatives. Please know that, regardless of who the Speaker is, or which party is in the majority, my job as the leader of the Bipartisan bloc in Congress is to pursue two-party consensus solutions, and to block any extreme legislative proposals that are inconsistent with our community's values. You can rest assured that I will continue to do just that. Nothing is more important to me than the cause of bipartisanship, and our nation's continued national security and economic prosperity.

It is an honor to serve as your independent voice in Congress.

Sincerely,

Brian