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Congress of the United States House of Representatives CHAIR, DEMOCRATIC POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER, STEERING & POLICY NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER, WILDLIFE, AND FISHERIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE STATE, REGULATORY REFORM, AND ANTITRUST

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, AND THE INTERNET COMMITTEE ON RULES

February 14, 2024

Dear Colleague:

Over the past year, the House of Representatives has confronted unprecedented crises under the Republican majority. In the face of such chaos, House Democrats have worked together to avert multiple government shutdowns, prevent a devastating debt default, and navigate unprecedented dysfunction as House Republicans repeatedly threw the chamber into peril. Through it all, I've been deeply inspired by the unity, tenacity, and focus our caucus has consistently shown, and have been so honored to partner with each of you every step of the way. As we embark again together on the road ahead this legislative session, I write to respectfully request your support of my candidacy for Assistant Democratic Leader.

During these very tumultuous times, Assistant Democratic Leader Jim Clyburn has provided invaluable guidance to our caucus. As a civil rights trailblazer and national leader, he has been a constant voice of reason and source of wisdom and inspiration. I couldn't be more grateful for his mentorship, and in light of his decision to step down from his leadership role, I would be honored to serve as Assistant Democratic Leader — to build on his distinguished legacy, and to continue my work supporting our Leader, Hakeem Jeffries, and our dedicated leadership team as we work together to put People over Politics and deliver for the American people.

It has been a privilege to serve our caucus for the past five years — including as a Co-Chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee (DPCC), DCCC Recruitment/Red-to-Blue Co-Chair, DCCC National Finance Co-Chair, and most recently, as the Chairman of the DPCC. In each position, I've worked to engage everyone in our caucus, firmly rooted in my belief that every member has much to offer to the House and to the country. And having traveled to 25 states over the past two years to work alongside each of you in your districts, I'm more confident than ever in our ability to harness the deep expertise and countless talents of our members to work on behalf of the American people.

As a son of immigrants, the first Black Congressperson elected by the State of Colorado, and as someone who represents a large rural and suburban district, with agricultural communities extending all the way to the Wyoming border, I've long worked hard to effectively communicate to a broad constituency. I've adopted that same approach as a member of the leadership team, ensuring that voices from across our caucus and the ideological spectrum are elevated, included, and heard. With your support, I'd be honored to do the same as Assistant Democratic Leader.

As Chairman of the DPCC during the past year, my singular focus has been on serving our caucus—by uplifting our members, expanding opportunities, and ensuring the committee is addressing your office's communications needs. Every member of our caucus brings a unique perspective to our work, which is why, working with our dedicated co-chairs, we've engaged every member in our message development process. I've also worked hard to modernize the operations of the committee and enhance the services it provides to members. From an inaugural Policy Dinner series and enhanced communication and media booking services, to newly launched modernization initiatives for paid communications and district work period toolkits, I'm proud to have made member services the core priority of the DPCC over the past year. I'd be deeply honored to bring that same commitment to service, collaboration, and innovation as Assistant Democratic Leader.

If elected, my goals would be straight-forward — to continue serving every member of our diverse and talented caucus, assist our incredible House Democratic Leadership team, and do everything in my power to help us retake the majority. With regard to member services, I'd relish the opportunity to apply the same lens of modernization to several core programs, including: (1) expanding and improving existing training and professional development services (both for members and DC/district personnel); (2) launching a new, centralized one-stop-shop with district and state-specific data and materials; (3) enhanced orientation programs for new members. All in all, I believe such efforts will ensure that every member has the resources they need to succeed.

Again, it has been such a privilege to work alongside each of you over the past several years. And it would truly be an honor to serve you, and our caucus, as Assistant Democratic Leader.

I look forward to continuing the conversation with you about my candidacy and ideas, and thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joelleyes

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