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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

September 13, 2022

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Dear New Democrat Coalition Colleague:

I write today to humbly ask for your support to serve as Chair of the New Democrat Coalition (NDC). As an active Member of the Coalition's leadership team, I would be honored to continue advocating for New Dem priorities and advance our Coalition's interests upon my reelection to the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

During my tenure as Vice Chair for Communications for the 116<sup>th</sup> and 117<sup>th</sup> Congresses, I have worked closely with Chairman Derek Kilmer and Chairwoman Suzan DelBene to lift up the substantial policy work being undertaken by our Coalition and drive key messaging points related to inflation, health care, infrastructure, climate change, and innovation. While the conversation in the country has shifted from a global pandemic and economic recovery to addressing rising costs and strengthening supply chains, the NDC has been a steady voice in commitment to pragmatic solutions for our nation's most urgent problems. Instrumental to this success and growth of the Coalition has been the innovative leadership of Chair Kind, Chair Himes, Chair Kilmer, and Chair DelBene. It is my hope to continue to build upon their achievements as we chart the course for the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

This year, the Coalition celebrated 25 years of delivering results for the American people. I have always referred to New Dems as the "Can-Do Caucus", and we now have a quarter-century of a proven track record demonstrating our solutions-oriented approach to legislating. Key to our success has been the Coalition's tremendous growth, making us the largest ideological caucus in Congress. However, it is my belief that our strength lies in our diversity. This diversity has not only fostered a more effective approach to policymaking, but makes our Coalition uniquely empathetic to the experiences of constituents across America. If elected Chair, I would be only the third woman to hold that position in our 25-year history. We must continue to ensure everyone has a seat at the table and invest in diverse representation in NDC leadership.

Throughout my five terms in Congress representing a competitive district, I have worked tirelessly across the aisle to advance common sense legislation that moves the country forward. However, the strength of our achievements as Members returning home every weekend is only measurable by how effectively we can communicate our efforts and convey how our constituents' lives are improved by our work. As Vice Chair for Communications, I have been proud to assist our Members in becoming more effective communicators, and remain focused on ensuring the NDC's policy agenda and legislative accomplishments are resonating with constituents at the kitchen table and with the local media. If elected your Chair, I will do everything within my power to ensure the solutions we seek translate from our Action Plans to the President's desk.

I have been an active member of the NDC for my five terms in Congress, as a member of the Health Care Task Force and back-to-back terms as Vice Chair for Communications. I also currently serve on Steering and Policy, and as a senior member of both the House Energy & Commerce Committee and House Agriculture Committee. And as a previous chair of Frontline and Keystone, as well as a founder of Elect Democratic Women, I understand how to translate our successes as wins in tough districts.

As Chair of NDC, I commit to building on the resounding successes of current and former leadership to grow our membership as the majority makers and move the Coalition forward:

- **Legislative Advocacy:** No matter the makeup of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, it is critical our voices are heard within House leadership, the Senate and the White House. I will work with anybody – or stand up to anybody – if it’s the right thing to do for the New Democrat Coalition. Galvanizing our Members to focus on our shared interests, rather than our few disagreements, is the key to our success.
- **Member Engagement:** Our Coalition is an invaluable clearinghouse for ideas and relationships. I hope to build on the success of our weekly meetings to spotlight Members’ legislative priorities. By dedicating time during our meetings to Member discussion, we can provide an uninterrupted opportunity for our colleagues to pitch their legislation, seek assistance from the Coalition, and identify likeminded Members.
- **Media Outreach:** Highlighting our legislative wins hinges upon our ability to clearly communicate with the press corps. One-on-one media coaching will ensure our Members can concisely and strategically share our message on television and radio. Furthermore, providing all Members with an opportunity to join off the record reporter coffees will ensure our Members can build valuable relationships with Washington, DC and national press.
- **Supporting Diversity:** As a Coalition of nearly 100 Members, I believe we are in a unique position to explore a formal Fellowship program that provides aspiring staffers from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds an opportunity to work on Capitol Hill.

As House Democrats work to keep our majority and our Coalition seeks to expand our diverse membership, we are reminded of the historic challenges that our country faces and the need for innovative solutions to deliver results for hard-working families. It is a privilege to serve in Congress and in a leadership position with the NDC, and I would appreciate your support to serve as Chair of the New Democrat Coalition.

I look forward to our continued work together to improve the lives of all Americans.

Onward,



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress  
Vice Chair, New Democrat Coalition