

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4606

Memorandum

To: Republican Colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives

From: Chip Roy (TX-21)
Date: May 11, 2021

Re: The Future of Our Conference and the Country

I constantly hear that our primary goal is "to take back the House." To what end?

I believe our goal should be to fight, as did President Trump, for the forgotten men and women of America, to throw sand into the gears of every radical effort put forth by Democrats who don't give a rip about them, and to declare with absolute clarity and certainty what we will do if and when the American people forgive us enough for our past failures to put us back in charge. If we do that, they just might "GIVE us back the House."

This should be our focus; but instead, we are falling prey to the high drama of swamp politics—the art of shuffling around the deck chairs as the American people look side-eyed, saying "uh, y'all realize there's a large iceberg in front of our country, right?"

Most Americans do not know who the Republican Conference Chairwoman is or what she does. All they care about is whether we are fighting for them and fighting to stop the radical Democrat agenda that has us driving at full speed ahead toward that iceberg.

This is actually why Liz Cheney will lose her job as Chair this week: she forfeited her ability to be our spokesperson by pulling us into distraction. From a position specifically designed to speak for all of us, she has been looking backwards while repeatedly and unhelpfully engaging in personal attacks and finger-wagging towards President Trump rather than leading the conference forward with a unifying message both on elections and more broadly. Despite considering her a friend and trying to give her a chance to succeed, I will vote to "recall" her tomorrow.

But now what? What is our message as a GOP Conference?

First, we should be clear that the media narrative that this is about Liz's position that the election "was not stolen" is false. This is about her general failure to lead the conference — recognizing the real concerns with expanded mail-in ballots, lack of identification requirements, ballot harvesting, and the numerous ways to undermine elections — on a path forward to restore election integrity. This is the kind of unified "election" message that Liz unfortunately did not develop that we should embrace now.

Second, this conference must focus immediately on standing up to the daily assault on everyday Americans and their way of life:

- Wide-open borders run by cartels that endanger both Americans and immigrants who are abused and sold into labor & sex trafficking;
- Dangerous streets in our communities with radically underfunded police departments and attacks on our God-given right to defend ourselves with arms;
- Schools if even open teaching our children that America is evil and that there is no God, while pushing radical racist theories and questioning the truth of two sexes, man and woman;
- Joblessness as Democrats push continued massive "unemployment" checks while trying to advance their universal living wage theories;
- Shut-down businesses, schools, and communities in the name of COVID destroying lives, harming mental health, and empowering bureaucrats over our freedoms;
- Skyrocketing energy costs and the prospect of experiencing "energy poverty" at the hands of a radical environmental agenda focused on shutting down the lifeblood of abundant fossil fuels;
- Higher healthcare prices and the inability to choose the doctors we want while having to get approval from insurance and government bureaucrats;
- Large woke corporations trying to run our lives and dictate what policies we have to choose while they stifle speech and take crony capital to get rich and kill thousands of small businesses;
- An increasingly weak and unstable economy facing \$30 trillion in debt with politicians hitting the accelerator on unlimited spending;
- Hundreds of thousands of unborn babies who continue to be exterminated every single year;
- Continuing military operations in the Middle East without a clear mission for what will soon be the 20th year under an unchanged "Authorization of the Use of Military Force;"
- An increasing belligerent and dangerous China attacking us with espionage, engaging in trade wars, throttling supply chains, stealing our intellectual property, and building its military to challenge us; and
- A now emboldened Iran endangering our ally Israel and destabilizing a Middle East peace advanced by President Trump.

You think all this happened in the last 4 months? Of course it did not. This — with the possible exception of standing with Israel — has all been happening for years on Republicans' watch.

Third, therefore, we must avoid putting in charge Republicans who campaign as Republicans but then vote for and advance the Democrats' agenda once sworn in – that is, that we do not make the same mistakes we did in 2017.

Therefore, with all due respect to my friend, Elise Stefanik, let us contemplate the message Republican leadership is about to send by rushing to coronate a spokesperson whose voting record embodies much of what led to the 2018 ass-kicking we received by Democrats.

Consider your response if I asked if you would — setting aside any friendship or personal feelings about him or her — support a colleague with the following record to be our spokesperson:

- Voted against President Trump's signature "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017;"
- Voted repeatedly to undermine President Trump's border security agenda:
 - O Voted against (*opposed from the left*) Goodlatte 1 (193 votes) and supported Goodlatte 2 (121 votes) notable because the push for Goodlatte 2 at the expense of Goodlatte 1 (or better) was a critical moment for President Trump to get a border security bill passed when our nation needed it most leading to the revolt that cost us 2018
 - o Voted for HJ Res 46 to end Trump's emergency declaration to fund the wall;
 - O Voted for SJ Res 54 to override President Trump's funding of the wall;
 - o Co-sponsored permanent status for Dreamers without any actual badly needed border security to stem the tide of the crisis in the 115th (USA Act);
- Voted for HRes 271: to Condemn President Trump for the important ACA lawsuit fighting its unconstitutionality;
- Voted for an amendment to HR 2500: To override President Trump's transgender troop policy;
- Voted for HR 5: the Equality Act (but flipped and voted against this year in the 117th);
- Voted for HR 9: the Climate Action Now Act (to force America to remain in the Paris Climate Agreement);
- Voted for HR 205: to ban drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico
- Voted for HR 8015: Delivering for America Act playing into Democrat Party conspiracy theory that President Trump was trying to destroy the post office;
- Many other concerning votes and positions, including absence and the use of unconstitutional proxy voting.

The forgotten men and women of this country simply want us to stand up for them. Please tell me how we are sending a message today that we are standing up for them with a leadership-tapped colleague with that record as our spokesperson?

Keep in mind that it was the immigration debacle on top of the complete failure to pass healthcare reform in 2017 while playing footsie with Democrats on issues like HR 5 (Equality Act) that led to Democrats steamrolling us in 2018, which then set the stage for impeachment and two years of a Democrat-controlled House engaged in full-throated attacks on President Trump's America First Agenda.

After vacating the current Conference Chair (held by Chairwoman Cheney), we should either choose someone who reflects our conservative values, or perhaps leave the position vacant and focus not on a position most people do not care about, but instead a strong agenda based on defending Americans from the radical left remaking their communities, the corporate-backed woke mob cancelling them, and a government tyrannically using the power of "unlimited" money to destroy their livelihoods and indoctrinate their children — all while failing to do the basic duty of defending them.

This was — and is — the essence of President Trump's successful America First agenda, and it is the reason he remains intensely popular among those Americans. The future of our republic is at stake, and the message "better than radical Democrats" will neither guarantee victory in 2022 nor win the minds and hearts of Americans to rally them to the cause of securing the blessings of liberty.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration.