STEVE SCALISE

November 4, 2026

Dear Colleague—

Last night's election was far worse than any of us expected. We fought hard and left it all on the field, but clearly, we were unable to defy history. Despite all we accomplished together, we will now find ourselves in the minority along with losing some incredible friends and public servants. This is no doubt a challenging time for our conference, but overcoming adversity is nothing new to me. We will need to be honest with ourselves about what happened, but it is more important now than ever for us to emerge from this stronger and united because the stakes couldn't be higher.

The socialists are coming to Washington with a radical agenda that threatens the America we hold dear. They will stop at nothing to undo the progress we've made alongside President Trump over the last two years. The House Republican Conference must be the first line of defense in this crucial battle, and we must fight like our way of life depends on it—because it does.

To succeed in this fight, we will need to stand united as one team, be smart and strategic to secure conservative policy wins where we can, closely coordinate our defense against aggressive oversight and together develop a clear vision and agenda to earn back the majority in 2028.

That is why I'm running to be your Republican Leader—I am ready to lead on day one and chart our path back to the majority.

Each of you know me and have seen how I lead. I have spent my entire career striving to unify our conference and get the best out of our members. You know that when I give you my word, I keep it. I am always honest about our challenges but work to solve them in the most conservative and consensus-driven way possible. That's what you've come to expect from me and that will be more important than ever in the next two years.

Standing United

The only way to be an effective minority is to stand united as a team. As we know, that's not always easy to achieve. We are a party of independent thinkers with a wide range of perspectives and deeply held convictions. Those are our strengths, but they serve us best when we bring them together around a common purpose. That means

working through our differences internally, deciding our course together, and standing united as a strong team.

I believe we need to make substantive changes to the way our conference operates, including clear expectation-setting with meaningful accountability. Our great accomplishments have come when we work as a team and that will be more important than ever next Congress.

Standing united will allow us to use every procedural tool at our disposal to disrupt the Democrats' radical agenda and force votes that expose divisions within their ranks. From discharge petitions and motions to recommit to previous question votes and coordinated committee and floor action, we will use every opportunity to put them on defense. Having served in both the majority and the minority, I know how much pressure a disciplined conference can bring to bear—and I commit that every one of you has a voice and a role in that fight.

Delivering Conservative Wins

Being in the minority does not mean giving up on delivering policy results. Our conference will need a tested negotiator and proven legislator to help our members continue to deliver for their districts and to best position our conference for the big legislative fights ahead. Next Congress, we'll need to engage in the normal legislative process on major reauthorizations; we'll need to continue to prioritize our members' district needs through the appropriations process; and we'll have to confront big fights on super intelligence, healthcare, immigration and border security, and much more. We need someone who knows how to legislate, defend our conservative priorities, and deliver results.

As Majority Whip, I helped secure our first major tax reform package in years, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, and as Minority Whip, I kept our conference united against far-left Democrat bills, while also securing critical priorities, like major defense and trade agreements. As Majority Leader, I helped navigate the countless challenges we faced together with the Working Families Tax Cuts. I fought alongside Chairman Smith to pursue a one-bill strategy, despite the loud calls for two. As a result of that decision and the tireless work of our committees and members, we enacted the most comprehensive and conservative bill ever passed into law.

I also have a proven track record fighting for and having the backs of our chairmen. Last year, I worked closely with Chairman Cole to get 11 of the 12 appropriations bills done, helping members deliver tangible results for their districts. I also worked closely

with Chairman Thompson to pass the first farm bill in years, which required a delicate negotiation on E15. Though I opposed the E15 bill, I knew how important it was to so many of our members and worked hard to unlock our ability to consider it so we could pass a truly historic farm bill. Similarly, I stood by Chairman Hill when negotiations with the administration and Senate got tough on his historic housing reform package. Thanks to his committee's work and the House sticking together, we enacted a much stronger package of conservative reforms.

We cannot underestimate the need to continue to legislate next Congress. Each one of you has district needs we must meet, as well as national priorities to deliver on, and we have big must-pass legislation we will need to strategically negotiate to give us the best opportunity to secure our policy goals. It will be key to have a proven legislator lead our conference through the difficult legislative road ahead and for President Trump to have a tested negotiator working alongside him to secure administration priorities.

Defending Against the "Oversight" Assault

House Democrats are about to unleash the most radical "oversight" agenda we have seen in years. Yes, they will seek to impeach President Trump, but their focus will extend far beyond the Oval Office. They have made clear they will undertake a comprehensive approach that will target President Trump's family, key cabinet officials, and any ally who has supported our America First agenda, including outside conservative partners and industry leaders. Make no mistake: they will weaponize every single gavel.

Through close coordination with the administration and our committee leaders, we will deploy a comprehensive approach that involves all committees to discredit their "investigations" and put them on defense. Our committee leaders will be our first line of defense, and I intend to work with them throughout the lame duck to prepare for what's ahead.

There will be plenty of opportunities for each of you to play a key role throughout this process. In the 116th Congress, individual members rose to the occasion, and by working closely with leadership, we were able to get the best out of our conference and discredit House Democrats' witch hunts—we must do the same in the 120th Congress. They will not be a unified majority. Through tight coordination and relentless focus, we can pit their members against each other, break their coalition, and disrupt their agenda.

Importantly, we cannot just play defense—we must also be on offense. As one example, I am currently examining how we can best partner with the administration and State

Attorneys General to confront the "Red-Green Alliance" we are seeing sweep across Europe. We cannot let what is happening there take hold here at home. The seriousness with which we must approach oversight next Congress cannot be understated and I have full confidence that, as a team, we will be effective in this fight.

Path Back to Majority

My number one goal as Republican Leader will be to win back the majority and I expect you to hold me accountable to that mission. To succeed, we will need to be effective in both the oversight and legislative fights ahead, but we will also need to lay out a clear and optimistic vision for America.

While Democrats will claim last night gives them a socialist mandate, we know socialism will never be the answer. The party that wants to end fossil fuels will not lower gas prices; socializing healthcare will not lower costs or improve care; and abolishing ICE and prisons will not keep Americans safe. We will need to relentlessly expose their dangerous agenda, but we cannot stop there.

We should build on the model some of our chairmen set this Congress and get out of Washington and into Real America to facilitate more conversations directly with the people. I will stand up Task Forces to go into communities across the country to engage with Americans to develop principles on specific topics our committee leaders will then turn into legislative text. Our Task Forces will focus on the big problems we're facing. For example, our debt and deficit are out of control; Social Security and Medicare are going bankrupt; super intelligence is ushering in the greatest technological revolution we've seen, which brings with it both challenges and opportunities; our education system is too expensive and broken; and our healthcare system works better for providers and insurers than it does for patients.

This effort will be critical to building consensus around a positive agenda we will run on in 2028, and advance once we take back the House. Not only do we need a compelling vision to win back the majority, but we also need the political infrastructure that can secure the resources needed. As one of the top Republican fundraisers in Congress, cycle after cycle, I've helped members and candidates compete and win. Since my time in leadership, I've raised $282 million. This cycle, I raised $67.9 million and gave $23.7 million directly to House campaigns and the NRCC. My grassroots small-dollar operation is the most prolific among House Republicans, raising over $140 million since it launched. In competitive districts, every dollar counts and these resources are critical to winning back the majority.

Next Congress will be difficult: we will no longer control the committee agenda or the House Floor, but we are not powerless. By staying united and acting as a team, we can disrupt their agenda and secure wins along the way. We have big tasks ahead, and tested leadership is needed now more than ever. I am ready to lead this conference and navigate the upcoming legislative and oversight battles. I've done it in the majority and in the minority and worked with every diverse corner of our conference each step of the way. My conservative record and leadership style have prepared me for this moment.

I am running to be your Republican Leader and humbly ask for your support.

God Bless,



Steve Scalise