

July 30, 2024

The Honorable Vice-President Kamala Harris
PO BOX 96663
WASHINGTON, DC 20077-7085

Vice-President Harris,

Thank you, on behalf of a grateful nation, for stepping forward after President Biden's decision not to seek re-election. As progressive leaders from across America, we whole-heartedly endorse your historic campaign to protect democracy, unify the nation, and keep a Democrat in the White House.

Over the past week, we have seen voters from across the political spectrum reinvigorated. From national news, to social media, to grassroots organizing, there is unmistakable momentum that simply did not exist just one month ago. We are reaching out to you now to ensure that we build on this momentum, consolidate our coalition, and go into the Democratic National Convention with our best chance to defeat Trump and Project 2025 in November.

As you and your team are well aware, it is difficult to overstate the importance of your decision in selecting a Vice-Presidential running mate. The correct vice presidential candidate can build on the amazing momentum you have established or set us back, especially among hard-to-reach, young, and disenfranchised voters. With the compressed timeline ahead of us to defeat the Trump-Vance-MAGA threat, we simply cannot afford any setbacks. Just as your selection by President Biden in 2020 strengthened the ticket, it is imperative that the person standing beside you in 2024 brings all of us together. With this in mind, we've outlined our thoughts below.

Governors [Tim Walz](#) and [Andy Beshear](#) are persuasive advocates for core Democratic values and will energize voters across America without marginalizing any of the communities that we must engage in order to win the electoral college. Governor Shapiro, although a valued member of the Democratic coalition, has made too many [controversial policy decisions](#) on issues such as school choice and the environment to be the consensus voice our nation needs right now.

The difference has been well-illustrated over the past week, while [Walz](#) and [Beshear](#) have had several interviews go viral due to their persuasive critique of the Republican ticket and advocacy based on our shared values, Shapiro has become, more than anything else, known for his shortcomings as a national candidate. His support for school vouchers is in [direct conflict with our teachers unions allies](#) and the Democratic Party Platform, threatening to undermine labor support. Democrats need a credible and respected voice that has a track record of winning over and exciting an electorate, especially the ability to turn out young voters, immigrants, and independents in swing states. We strongly believe Walz and Beshear are those voices.

In particular, governors like Beshear and Walz represent and connect with rural communities that have felt left behind in recent elections. Beshear—who has flipped many Republican rural counties in Kentucky—and Walz—who was a democratic representative in a rural district before becoming governor—are perfect candidates to help us win back rural voters across the country.

All of the signatories to this letter will be working hard to elect you this fall. We know Walz and Beshear will make that job easier while Shapiro will be an unnecessary obstacle to grassroots organizing, fundraising, and excitement. Your campaign simply cannot afford to make a mistake in this crucial decision. We have confidence you will get it right.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fatima Iqbal-Zubair
 Chair, California Democratic Party Progressive Caucus

Amar Shergill
 Chair Emeritus, California Democratic Party Progressive Caucus

Judith Whitmer	Fmr State Party Chair, SCC member	Nevada Democratic Party		NV
Pia Gallegos	Steering Committee,	State Democratic Party Progressives Network		NM
Susan Heath		PDA-Oregon		OR
Jon Phoenix	KY 5th District DNC Delegate	Knox Co KY Democratic Party		KY
Mike Bonacolta	President	Democratic Progressive Caucus of Florida		FL
Jason Christopher Small	Vice Chair, California Progressive Alliance	Feel The Bern SFV/ CPA		CA
Alan Minsky	Executive Director	Progressive Democrats of America		CA
Emad Salem	Vice President	Texas Progressive Caucus		TX
Jenise	Porter	Progressive Democrats of		AZ

		America-Tucson Chapter		
Christy Cardwell	Vice Chair (WCDEC)	West Virginia State Democratic Executive Committee		WV
Dana Butow	Chair	Tuolumne County Democratic Central Committee		CA
Jeri Shepherd	DNC Member	Colorado Democratic Party		CO
Lurelle Robbins	Past Chair	Democratic Party of Multnomah County, Oregon		OR
Susan Haas	Elected Member	Ohio Democratic Party Executive Committee		OH
Russell Giambrone	Board Member: Democratic Progress Caucus Florida	DPCF, DPCTB		FL
Clayton Tucker	President	Texas Progressive Caucus		TX
Carolina Ampudia	President Democratic Progressive Caucus of Broward County, Florida	Democratic Progressive Caucus of Broward County, Florida		FL
JT Beebe	EC Member	TXPC		TX
Mohammad Aijaz	TX SDEC, Committeeman CD-22 and DNCC Rules committee member			TX
Nathan Clark		Texas SDEC CD4		TX
Trish Contreras	Secretary	Texas Progressive Caucus		TX
Nicolette Ardiente	President	Bexar County Young Democrats		TX
Carolyn Townsend				IL
Kolby Duhon	State Democratic Executive Committeemember CD 35 TX			TX

Harper Bishop	Executive Director	Our City Action Buffalo		NY
Bruce Murray	Vice Chair	Global Progressive Caucus, Democrats Abroad		Democrats Abroad
Carol Courtney	Chair - Congressional District 2	Adelante Caucus New Mexico		NM
Wesley Lawrence	Texas State democratic executive committeeman TX-23	N/A		TX
Chase West	Candidate	West for TX Campaign		TX
Lauren Bier	Secretary, CADEM Progressive Caucus, SIF Co-Chair, San Diego County Democratic Party Ethics Committee			CA
Emma Jenson	Parliamentarian, California Democratic Party Progressive Caucus	CDP Progressive Caucus		CA
Patti Serrano	Co-Chair of Arizona Democratic Party, Progressive Council	Arizona Democratic Party		AZ
Helene Rouvier	Northern California Vice-Chair, California Democratic Party Progressive Caucus			CA
Daniel Ayala Jr.	President	Texas Environmental Democratic Caucus		TX
William Walter	Executive Director	Our Wisconsin Revolution		WI
Scotti Romberg	Vice Chair	Adelante Progressive Caucus		NM
André Treiber	Chair, DNC Youth Council	Democratic National Committee		National

Jen Ramos	Texas State Democratic Executive Committeewoman, CD 35	Texas Democratic Party		TX
Bart Dame	National Committeeman	Democratic Party of Hawaii		HI
Ashley Cheng	DNC Member			TX
Jack Chrismon	Harris National Delegate			TX
Achyuth Sarath	2024 Harris National Delegate			TX
Sheri morgan	State Committeewoman	PA Democratic Party State Committee		PA
Aftab Siddiqui	Member Board	Muslim Democratic Caucus of Texas		TX
Karen Bernal	Chair Emeritus	California Democratic Party Progressive Caucus		CA