

An Open Letter to the Democratic Party

To the Democratic Party: the country is listening.

A DISPATCH FROM THE COALITION · JUNE 2026

To our elected representatives, party leadership, and those who carry the banner of the Democratic Party:

We are writing to you not as opposition, but as the people who built the coalitions that put you in office. We are the volunteers, the small-dollar donors, the precinct captains, and the millions of voters who turn out election after election because we believe — still — that this party can be the vehicle for the country we were promised.

We are writing because belief alone is not enough, and because too many recent moments have left us watching values spoken but not defended. The coalition that carries you is broad: working families, organized labor, the historically excluded, the newly enfranchised, and millions of Americans who simply want a government that does its job. That coalition deserves more than a managed defense of the status quo.

“We did not vote for caution. We voted for the country we were promised.”

The opposition has been clear about what they intend to do. Clarity is not their failing. We need you to be at least as clear about what you intend to stop them from doing — and about what you intend to build in its place. Half-measures, focus-grouped into shape, will not meet this moment.

So we are putting our requests in writing. Plainly, so they cannot be misheard.

WE ASK, IN PLAIN TERMS

01. Defend democracy as if you mean it.

Protect the right to vote, the integrity of every count, and the institutions that make free elections possible. Treat threats to democratic norms as the emergencies they are — not as talking points to be rotated through a news cycle.

02. Fight for working people, not just for their votes.

Affordable healthcare, livable wages, the right to organize, housing a teacher can afford, child care that does not bankrupt a family. Stop trading these for soundbites about civility and consensus.

03. Lead on climate, before there is nothing left to lead on.

The science has been settled for a generation. Match the urgency with policy that actually moves the country off the path we are on, and stop pretending the timeline is negotiable.

04. Match your rhetoric on civil rights with action.

Codify protections that the courts will not. Speak the names of those failed by the system. Govern as if every life under your jurisdiction is equal under the law — because that is what you told us you believed.

05. Hold the line on the rule of law.

No one is above it, and no political calculation is worth pretending otherwise. The standard you set today is the precedent your opponents will use tomorrow. Choose carefully.

We will keep showing up. We will keep voting. We will keep organizing in the places this party has too often forgotten. In return, we ask only that you do the same — visibly, consistently, and without the constant retreat to the middle of a field that has moved out from under us.

This letter is not a threat. It is a record. You will know that the coalition was paying attention. You will know what we asked. And you will know what we were willing to do, on our end, to help you answer.

Signed, with conviction,

The American People
YOU swore to protect
AND FAILED.