

May 22, 2024

Dear Colleague:

I have decided to run for Senate Republican leader because I believe now is a moment we need dramatic change. I believe that our voters want us to use this leadership election to make a choice to upend the status quo in Washington. If you also believe this to be true and want a leader dedicated to that principle, I would be honored to have the opportunity to earn your support.

The path our nation is going down is not sustainable. Like many of you, I believe our country is in deep, deep trouble. Our border is wide open, our debt is unsustainable, the world is heading to all-out war, our military is struggling with recruiting and readiness, our enemies think we are weak, 100 million working age adults are not working, we are not adding full time jobs, over 100,000 Americans die of drug overdoses a year, we are dependent on our biggest adversary for drugs and household goods, inflation is eating away at our savings, men are taking over women's sports, and Americans are relying on our safety net programs which are underfunded and going bankrupt.

Prior to running for governor in 2010, I spent my career buying and turning around failing businesses primarily in healthcare, manufacturing and technology. Any success I had in business was based on acknowledging challenges and mistakes, surrounding myself with smart people, creating a plan for success, working much harder than our competitors, being willing to make tough choices, and measuring our results and holding ourselves accountable for mistakes and failure.

I see similarities to my business life in our Conference. I am running for leader because I believe our Conference should be governed to better accomplish what each of us came here to do. I hope this year's leadership elections will give us the opportunity to choose leaders who will help each of us represent the hopes and dreams of our voters.

I think we need to be way more transparent with each other and the American people. There have been far too many backroom deals cut in secret, rarely do things go through the committee process, and it's accepted practice to not allow amendment votes to trillion-dollar spending bills. We are routinely surprised with legislation and

asked to vote on it without having had any input or even time to review it. Rarely do we work in concert with Republicans in the House, and the Senate far too often passes legislation that is supported by 100% of the Democrats, and only a quarter of our Republican Conference. We too often take votes that divide us and unite Democrats. Republicans all across America want the Republicans they elected to the U.S. Senate to stop caving in to Democrat demands. This is not an unreasonable request or expectation.

Senate Republican leadership should reflect the views and aspirations of Republican voters. It's no secret that Republican voters believe we don't fight hard enough for the issues they care about. Republican voters believe our country is going down the wrong path and expect us to fight back harder against the destruction Biden and the Democrats are bringing to this country. Republican voters think the DOJ, the FBI and the IRS have been weaponized to protect Democrats and harm Republicans. They think the persecution of President Trump is criminal. Our leadership needs to represent our voters and fight on the issues that matter to them.

I think we should be clear with what we stand for, what we stand against and what we will try to accomplish no matter how difficult the challenges are. That will require having candid conversations as a Conference about what we care about. We will need to come together as a Conference and operate as a Conference. We have a lot of talent in our Conference we can tap into to help solve problems. Once we come together with what we want to accomplish, we will have to act together to get it done. I know this is easier said than done, but I believe we can come together to solve the problems our country faces.

If you elect me, you can count on the following:

- 1. I will always remember you elected me, and I will work with each of you to accomplish your goals.
- 2. I will work tirelessly to help elect all Republican senators, whether they are likely to support me or not.
- 3. I will never surprise you with legislation and ask that you vote on something you haven't had an opportunity to review.
- 4. I will always work to be transparent with each of you and to bring the Conference together.
- 5. I will work with each of you to advance Republican priorities and, when possible, force Democrats to vote on our bills.
- 6. I will lead the Conference in developing a positive, aspirational agenda that outlines our legislative goals and what Senate Republicans stand for.
- 7. I will engage with Republicans in the House to pass Republican priorities.
- 8. I will never pressure you to vote in a way that is counter to what you campaigned on or not in the best interests of your state.

In addition, I believe the leader should be limited to a six-year term, the appropriations process should follow a realistic schedule to prevent Continuing Resolutions and omnibus spending bills, and bills should go through committee with a robust amendment process on the Senate floor.

Like each of you, I believe in this country. I believe in the American Dream and I believe this will be a watershed election. Americans will reject wholesale the Biden/Democrat destruction of our country. I believe President Trump will win with a mandate for dramatic change, we will have a Republican Senate majority and a bigger Republican advantage in the House. We will have a historic opportunity to solve our country's problems. Over the years, the Senate has become the place where change oriented conservative policies come to die, and I believe now is the time to change that.

Come January 20, to turn this country around, we will need to work closely with President Trump. I have known President Trump since before either of us ran for any political office. As Republican leader, I will protect senators' interests while helping President Trump accomplish his goals. Our country's success and our Conference's success will be dependent on President Trump's success.

This is not a time to make small adjustments, I believe we need a dramatic sea change to save our country and that's why I'm running to be Republican leader.

It is my belief that every single one of us wants to get our country back on track, and we have incredibly talented senators in our Conference. Now, we have an opportunity for bold change. I understand that I won't gain the support of every member of our Conference, but we all have a clear choice to make. If you simply want to stick with the status quo, I'm sure you won't vote for me, and you shouldn't.

I would be honored to serve. I humbly ask for your vote as the next Republican leader and hopefully, for our country's sake, majority leader.

Respectfully,

Rick Scott