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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
 8TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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Dear Democratic Caucus Colleagues:

I am writing you to seek your support for my bid to become Chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

I have chosen to run because the defense of strong democracy, the voting rights of the people, accountable government and constitutional freedom has been the central mission and passion of my service in Congress. I want to continue and expand upon this work every day with my extraordinary colleagues on and off the Committee.

I am grateful to Carolyn Maloney for her leadership of the Committee during the most thoroughgoing assault on American democratic institutions in more than a century. And we will all strive to continue her spirited defense of reproductive freedom and equal rights along with her commitment to a fair Census, a strong Post Office and justice for 9/11 first responders.

The Caucus now faces a rare opening for the Chairmanship of COR at a time of continuing extraordinary danger to our political institutions and government.

We are still in the fight of our lives to defend American constitutional democracy and—by extension—political freedom and human rights all over the world.

Since his second impeachment by the House of Representatives on January 13, 2021, and the historic bipartisan 57-43 vote in his Senate trial on February 13, 2021, we have documented Donald Trump's astounding crimes against democracy, but he has only tightened his authoritarian stranglehold over the GOP. The brazen forces of autocracy, kleptocracy and theocracy are rampaging across America.

My oversight focus did not begin with my service as the Lead Impeachment Manager in Donald Trump's second impeachment trial. I was recruited to the Committee on Oversight and Reform in the first week of my swearing-in to Congress in 2017 by our late beloved Chairman—and my fellow Marylander and friend—Elijah Cummings.

In 2019, in my second Term in the House, Chairman Cummings named me Chairman of our Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, and it is still hard for me to express the awesome sense of responsibility (and gratitude) that his appointment to this key position imbued in me.

Our Subcommittee conducted aggressive investigations on everything from racist voter suppression tactics in Texas to book-banning and classroom censorship across the country to the

Trump Administration's decision to deport critically ill children and their families to the oil industry's disinformation campaign to suppress the truth about climate change to political interference with the Census.

But I am proudest of a set of five hearings we did over the last four years on the subject of **violent white supremacy in America and the serious threat it poses to civil rights and liberties, public safety and democracy itself**. Long before January 6, 2021, we examined and reported on the rise of militia extremism, the infiltration of local police departments by white supremacists, and the rampant growth of domestic violent extremism during the Trump Administration. With the Homeland Security Committee, we did everything we could to blow the whistle on the extremist subterranean political culture that was activated by Donald Trump on that fateful day.

As we continue to fight for a strong majority in the next Congress and to assemble our forces for the battles ahead, **we need to mobilize the extraordinary insight and knowledge of the Members of the Oversight and Reform Committee**. As my subcommittee colleagues and members of my impeachment managers' team will tell you, my leadership style involves constant dialogue and consultation to draw on the diverse talents and best ideas of the group. We will work together, and closely with other Committees, to mount sustained investigative inquiry and advocacy to defend voting rights and the electoral infrastructure; to fight for statehood for 713,000 disenfranchised, taxpaying citizens in Washington, D.C.; to protect abortion rights and contraception and the constitutional right of women to travel in the United States; to make sure that the government, especially the Post Office, is being used as an efficient instrument for the common good and public interest, and not self-enrichment or partisan entrenchment; and to promote integrity, efficiency and transparency throughout the government.

The Oversight and Reform Committee has expansive power to speak to America in a concise and dramatic way about the continuing peril presented by the autocrats, the kleptocrats and the theocrats. We must use every new technique of investigative research, communication, and social media to galvanize public opinion in our campaign to defend strong democracy and effective government in America.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention and consideration. I am at your disposal to talk freely about this important decision, and I hope to win your support among the truly excellent candidates in the field.

With all best wishes and nothing but great high hopes for America,



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress