COMMITMENT TO CIVILITY

Incoming Members of the 115th United States Congress

As new Members of the United States House of Representatives and as individual citizens we recognize the gravity of the responsibility we have been given and the significance of this moment in the history of our extraordinary country.

America remains the most free, most powerful and most prosperous nation in all the world, and yet we face significant challenges. Among these challenges has been an increasing division in and coarsening of our culture fueled too often by the vitriol in our politics and public discourse. One result has been a loss of trust in our institutions and elected officials.

We believe there is a better alternative.

Although we represent both political parties and a wide range of individual views across the political spectrum, our common and sincere aims are to serve the needs and interests of the American people, to work with one another and the leaders of our respective parties to encourage greater confidence in our institutions, and to set an example of statesmanship for the younger generations of Americans that will follow.

To this end, we are dedicated to showing proper respect to one another and all others, encouraging productive dialogue, and modeling civility in our public and private actions. While we may vehemently disagree on matters of law and policy, we will strive at all times to maintain collegiality and the honor of our office.

We believe that a leader can be cooperative and conciliatory without compromising his or her core principles, and we will remember that our political rivals in Congress are not our enemies—but rather our colleagues and fellow Americans. We also believe that maintaining a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation will help make government work more efficiently and effectively, help build consensus and restore the public trust, and, ultimately, serve as a positive influence on society at large.

For all of these reasons, we hereby pledge our names to this Commitment to Civility on this 10th day of January, 2017, in Washington, D.C.

Jodey Arrington (R-TX)

Donald John Bacon (R-NE)

Jim Banks (R-IN)

Nanette Barragan (D-CA)

John Bergman (R-MI)

Andy Biggs (R-AZ)

Anthony Brown (D-MD)

Ted Budd (R-NC)

Salud Carbajal (D-CA)

Liz Cheney (R-WY)

James Comer (R-KY)

Val Demings (D-FL)

Charlie Crist (D-FL)

John Faso (R-NY)

Neal Dunn (R-FL)

Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)

Drew Ferguson (R-GA)

Matt Gaetz (R-FL)

Mike Gallagher (R-WI)

Tom Garrett (R-VA)

Jennifer Gonzalez (R-PR)

Trey Hollingsworth (R-IN)

Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ)

Mike Johnson (R-LA)

Clay Higgins (R-LA)

David Kustoff (R-TN)

Pramila Jayapal (D-WA)

Jason Lewis (R-MN)

Ro Khanna (D-CA)

Brian Mast (R-FL)

Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL)

Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)

Al Lawson (D-FL)

Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE)

Roger Marshall (R-KS)

Jacky Rosen (D-NV)

Brad Schneider (IL-10)

Lloyd Smucker (R-PA)

Paul Mitchell (R-MI)

Tom Suozzi (D-NY)

Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ)

Claudia Tenney (R-NY)

Jamie Raskin (D-MD)

Darren Soto (D-FL)

Francis Rooney (R-FL)

Scott W. Taylor (R-VA)

John Rutherford (R-FL)