

Letter: Some Thoughts on the Speakership

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During these last few weeks in Washington D.C., Congress has accomplished nothing. We have another Government Shutdown heading our way, but Congress can't avert this one until we have a new Speaker. So how did we get here?

Over the past several years, Jared Huffman has followed his party's playbook of dividing America based on who is and isn't an "extreme MAGA Republican." He's told us over and over how these individuals are a threat to our very democracy. Now, after years of selling division instead of creating unity, he has decided to stand shoulder to shoulder with extreme MAGA Republican Matt Gaetz in support of his effort to remove Former Speaker Kevin McCarthy. What does that say about Jared Huffman?

I know that Americans are fed up with the corruption in Congress. Our lives are the ones that suffer for their inaction. The last meaningful piece of legislation they passed was nearly three weeks ago and that was merely the resolution to fund the government for an additional 45 days.

During that time, we have paid members of Congress a combined \$4,000,000+ in salaries alone. What have they done to earn that money? Did you know members of Congress receive full retirement benefits after just six years? SIX YEARS! How long do you have to work to receive full benefits?

Throughout the next year, we are going to hear a lot of divisive things coming out of our government. Democrats will blame Republicans, and Republicans will blame Democrats. The reality is, since the year

2000 Democrats have held the House, Senate, and Presidency twice, with the most recent being from 2021-2023. The Republicans have held them three times. What has either side done to fix the problems in our country?

Ask yourself honestly, whether you are conservative or liberal, how do you justify your side holding all three branches of Government MULTIPLE times and not following through on the issues that matter to you? Those in Congress will use whatever they can to try and divide us. That is how they maintain their position and their power.

It is up to us to remember that we are the UNITED States of America, not the divided states.

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