



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

November 27, 2018

Dear Democratic Colleague:

Thanks to your hard work and the support of the American people, we not only have the largest newly-elected Democratic class since Watergate, but the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress will also be the most diverse in our nation's history. We need a leadership team that will reflect this diversity, build coalitions across the Caucus, and bring members together. That is why, as former Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) chairs, we are proud to support Congresswoman Barbara Lee's candidacy for Democratic Caucus Chair.

Congresswoman Lee has the vision, leadership and experience that we need to unify our party. When she served as chair of the CBC during President Obama's first two years in office, we saw first-hand her ability to build consensus for major Democratic priorities like the Affordable Care Act (ACA). She worked tirelessly to ensure the needs of communities of color were heard and represented in caucus deliberations on the ACA. She has continued to fight for Tri-Caucus priorities and ensure that communities of color are included in our policy discussions and priorities.

Congresswoman Lee also has been at the forefront of our Democratic Caucus through her work on economic justice and poverty. As Chair of the Democratic Whip's Task Force on Poverty, Income Inequality and Opportunity, Congresswoman Lee has been a champion for families living on the edge. She understands that poverty knows no borders, and that every member, of every caucus, region and background, has been confronted by this national epidemic.

From voting rights and criminal justice reform, to access to high-quality education and a safe, clean planet, Congresswoman Lee has worked with members across the Democratic Caucus to ensure our policies and priorities reflect the aspirations of all Americans. We know that communities of color and other vulnerable communities are facing increasing attacks by the Trump Administration. As Caucus Chair, Congresswoman Lee will be a voice for these and every community that needs a champion in Congress.

We are proud to endorse this effective and principled leader to serve as our next Democratic Caucus Chair, and we urge you to join us in voting for Barbara Lee on Wednesday.

Sincerely,



G.K. Butterfield, Jr.



Marcia L. Fudge



Emanuel Cleaver II