

DEBBIE DINGELL
12TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

116 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4071

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HEALTH
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS
WATER, OCEANS, AND WILDLIFE
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

DISTRICT OFFICES:

WOODHAVEN CITY HALL
21869 WEST ROAD
WOODHAVEN, MI 48183
(313) 278-2936

301 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 400
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
(734) 481-1100

WEBSITE: DEBBIEDINGELL.HOUSE.GOV

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 10, 2022

Dear Democratic Caucus Colleagues:

On Tuesday night, our House Democratic Caucus exceeded the expectations of many. We fought to protect our incumbents, we flipped a number of seats to broaden our base, and we elected an incredible class of new Members who will bring a fresh perspective to the new Congress. Because of retirements and losses, we will miss some of our most valued colleagues. As ballots continue to be counted and control of the House of Representatives remains in the balance, our most challenging work lies ahead. Regardless of who controls the House, we will have to defend the progress we have made over the last two years, and we will have to use this moment to organize and unite before one of the most important elections of our lifetimes. **I write to respectfully request your support and consideration to serve as Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus.**

I am running because our Caucus needs a unifying voice at the leadership table who speaks for the working families who feel left behind, a leader who will fight for all our colleagues, and a worker who delivers results.

Our Caucus must continue to do a better job earning the support of working-class families in this country, and my home state of Michigan has proven this is a way Democrats win. Michigan Democrats were successful in securing all three swing seats and nearly won a fourth. At the state level, we swept all three statewide offices, and captured the Governorship, State Senate, and State House for the first time in nearly 40 years.

Michigan Democrats achieved these victories thanks to our unrelenting efforts to put people over politics, including our focus on kitchen table issues. Of course, every candidate must run a campaign tailored to their personal story and district, but we know that Democrats are strongest when we are united, and we are fighting for working families. Every single day in my district, I speak with Michigan families about the issues that keep them up at night – the rising costs of gas, groceries, health care, and housing, the jobs and businesses leaving their regions, the desire to live in a safe community, and the daily struggle to make ends meet. For decades, I've spent my weekends with workers and retirees in labor halls across Southeastern Michigan and I've seen firsthand that the foundation of our working-class base has begun to crumble. But it's not just the union workers we need to hear, it's the working families in every community of this country, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity. Our path forward requires a message that shows we not only hear the struggles of working families, but that we understand and are ready to take action to address them.

Second, it is important that every Member of our Caucus feels that their voice is heard, that they can impact our strategy and messaging, and that the needs of their office and their district matter. As your Vice Chair, I promise that you will be heard. Your views and opinions are important to me and need to be included in our Caucus. All Members must have an avenue to advance and enact their policy priorities, as well as a platform to show their constituents they are fighting for them.

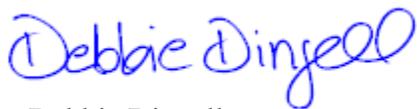
Lastly, if there's one thing I'm known for, it's rolling up my sleeves and getting the job done. You have my word that I will put in the long hours doing the hard, unglamorous work that true leadership requires. I am blunt, straightforward, and not afraid to say what needs to be said. Candor matters, especially in complicated times. There are many perspectives, thoughts, and proposed solutions, and we need to ensure that every voice is represented as our strategy is developed, prioritized, and implemented. But we can't delude ourselves with happy talk and wishful thinking. I am not afraid to express uncomfortable truths – whether they're my own or others – that need to be heard. And I'm not afraid to stand up for our Democratic values on unfriendly turf and in combative media.

Whether as Co-Chair of the DPCC, National Finance Co-Chair of the DCCC, or Co-Chair of the DCCC's WomenLEAD program during our historic 2018 cycle, I have proven that I can bring this Caucus together. I know how to listen to the perspectives and understand the needs of all Members and candidates of this Caucus. Unity begins with understanding the issues of our diverse Caucus and lifting up the voices of all of our Members. But as you know well, I will never be afraid to speak the truth, even when – especially when – it is uncomfortable.

In the eight years representing my district, I have learned that we can never shy away from contentious issues because polls tell us to. And I have learned that we can build a broad Democratic coalition because there is far more that unites this party than divides it. We win when we show our voters that we won't simply talk about the challenges facing our communities, but instead that we understand their struggles, understand the issues they talk about at the kitchen table, and understand that it is our responsibility to deliver real solutions.

I care deeply about your thoughts, concerns, and ideas. I look forward to having this discussion with you and I am grateful to be a Member of this Caucus. Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress