

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 28, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

As you prepare for your address to the Joint Session of Congress, we strongly urge you to stop advancing divisive policies and inflammatory rhetoric and instead focus on policies that will grow the economy, create more opportunity for all, and make government work better.

Last November, Americans across the political spectrum elected leaders to work together to strengthen our economy and increase opportunity for all. Upon your inauguration, despite being in opposition, we were hopeful that you would govern like the "dealmaker" you so adamantly claimed to be, seeking areas of consensus and compromise. Regrettably, since your inauguration, we have heard no specific proposals from you on improving our infrastructure, reforming our tax code, or bettering the Affordable Care Act, all things that you promised before and after the election.

As leaders of the 54 member New Democrat Coalition, a group with a track record of seeking bipartisan cooperation, we implore you to begin focusing on these issues. New Democrats want to work on a bipartisan proposal that would significantly increase investment in and modernize our infrastructure system. We also stand ready to work together to modernize our tax code, improve the Affordable Care Act, and pass comprehensive immigration reform. Unfortunately, the acrimonious approach you have taken to date is decreasing the opportunity for progress on these issues. If you adopt a more focused and conciliatory approach to policymaking, we all can get to work on the job the American people sent us to Washington to do.

Sincerely,









