

C O N G R E S S M A N
KEVIN HERN
OKLAHOMA'S FIRST DISTRICT

Dear Republican Colleagues,

Following the results of the vote on Tuesday, many of you reached out to me encouraging me to run for Speaker of the House. I prayerfully considered those conversations, and over the past four days have carefully examined the question of who our next Speaker should be and whether I should announce my candidacy for the role.

I called, texted, or met in-person with all 221 members of the House Republican Conference, asking each member what they want to see in the next Speaker and how we can move forward as a Majority. The overwhelming response I heard from you is that we must unify and come out of this situation stronger as a Majority. While many of you emphasized the necessity for new blood in our leadership, the need for unity comes first and foremost.

I personally believe we need a Speaker who takes the time to listen more than they speak, who will fight for the conservative policies that we believe in over personalities or conflicts, who will focus on what brings us together rather than what tears us apart, and who focuses on keeping our Majority, winning back the Senate and the White House, and getting wins in this divided government where we can.

Now is the time to put the future of our nation first because a divided majority will result in an even more fractured country. This is bigger than me or any one person. The decision we make will impact every American, regardless of party affiliation, tax bracket, or zip code.

House Republicans must unify – and do it fast. It's clear to me that a three-man race for Speaker will only draw this process out longer, creating further division which would make it harder for any candidate to reach 217 votes. For these reasons, I want two good friends of mine, Steve Scalise and Jim Jordan, to have the opportunity to earn 217 votes from our Conference. Steve and Jim are both former RSC chairmen and proven leaders.

Whatever happens next, our Conference must commit to stay in the room, turn off our phones, and work together until we have a candidate who can earn 217 Republican votes. When we leave that room and head to the House floor, we must show the world that we are united in support behind our Speaker and ready to do the work we were elected to do.

I look forward to working with our next Speaker of the House.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin Hern".

Kevin Hern
Member of Congress