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Statement in Support of Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings

On behalf of Our Revolution Maryland, I write to express our support for Maryland Democratic Chair Maya Rockey Moore Cummings. Specifically, we join her in urging each of the three Delegates competing to become House Speaker to accept the vote of the Democratic caucus and to pledge to support the candidate who wins a majority of Democratic votes.

We recognize that there is resistance to this position from some Delegates and other influential Maryland Democratic Party leaders. It is understandable that one candidate for Speaker and those in the majority party who strongly prefer that one candidate might consider seeking support from members of another party in order to prevail. There are times when this may be a sensible approach.

But in this case, we believe it would be wise to heed the truism - “in unity there is strength.” Unlike Republican lawmakers, 1) Free State Democrats put the interests of working and middle-class Marylanders ahead of those with wealth and power, 2) Free State Democrats recognize the importance of a sustainable economy, a healthy environment, and universally available healthcare, 3) Free State Democrats stand with marginalized communities including people of color, women, and immigrants.

If the next Speaker assumes leadership because of a rift within our Party and the unified support of Republicans, the primary concerns of millions of middle-class, working, and struggling Maryland Democratic voters are likely to be discounted or given short shrift. This would be morally wrong. It would also impair the political fortunes of Democratic legislators.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Muehlenkamp