



July 1, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy,

As members of the Future Forum Caucus, we write in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, which was passed to protect the voting rights of all Americans over the age of eighteen. Today is an important moment in our country's history: young Americans - across ideological, geographic, and demographic lines - are more politically active and engaged than ever before. Future Forum is a caucus of young Democratic Members of Congress who advocate for issues and opportunities important to younger Americans. We are proud to honor the 50th anniversary of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment and its significance in acknowledging the importance of these voices in the Democratic process.

The Twenty-Sixth Amendment was adopted to bring young people into the electoral process and promote widespread civic engagement. Rep. Pappas introduced H.R. 1366, the Protect the Youth Vote Act, co-led by fellow Future Forum members Rep. Neguse, Rep. Gallego, Rep. Meng, and Rep. Murphy. The Act would outline specific practices that violate the Twenty-Sixth Amendment and establish procedures to strengthen enforcement of the amendment. This legislation will ensure the protection of every young American's right to vote and stay engaged in our democracy.

The Future Forum is also excited to collaborate with YouthInGov, a coalition consisting of 100+ youth-led and serving organizations, to increase youth opportunities in the Federal Government. Specifically, the YouthInGov proposals include creating an Office of Young Americans within the Executive Office, appointing a Director of Youth Engagement, and empowering youth in official administration positions. These actions would ensure that decisions made by the Federal Government take young Americans into account.

On the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, the Future Forum is proud of our members' commitment to advocating for young Americans. We believe that every young American has the right to engage in our democracy without obstacles. As we advocate for democratic engagement, it is crucial that young people are involved in decision-making at every level of government.

Sincerely,



Darren Soto
Chairman



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Colin Allred
Vice Chair



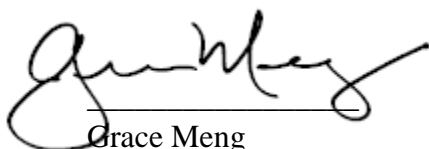
Stephanie Murphy
Chair Emeritus



Sara Jacobs
Vice Chair



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Richie Torres
Member of Congress