



Congressman Trent Franks, 2nd District of Arizona

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Dear Friends,

This week, we once again celebrated the day that marked the dawn of our great Republic. Over two centuries ago, 56 men stepped immortally into the pages of history as champions of freedom when they approved the document that would become the cornerstone of America's liberty, which we know as the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration enshrined the earth-shattering reality that the Liberty of mankind is, in the words of Alexander Hamilton, "...written as with a sunbeam in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the divinity itself; and can never be erased."

The entire course of human history was changed because these courageous men held to the foundational ideal that has set America apart from every other nation in the world. They expressed it in those timeless words:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Today 300 million Americans bask in the sunlight of freedom because of the courage of those men who, for the sake of future generations, entrusted themselves to the protection of divine Providence, pledging their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the cause of Liberty.

231 years later, the same calling is upon us as Americans and inheritors of their legacy. The future of the entire human family, of all those who cherish the same ideals and God-given truths, will depend on the choice of this generation; whether or not we will adhere to the unchanging principles grounded in moral clarity and immutable truth.

We continue to face the relentless determination of radical jihadists bent on destroying America and all who love freedom, as

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well as the growing liberal ideology of those seeking to revise history and erode the heritage of faith that has made our nation a beacon of hope to the watching world.

In such a time, our citizens must never forget that man's rights are not given to him by the government, but by a just and almighty God. Increasingly, many believe that government is the solution to society's problems, forgetting that government exists to serve the people, and not the other way around. We stand on a dangerous precipice; and the Liberty of this and future generations hangs in the balance.

Yet, despite these unprecedented challenges, there is also an enduring hope and bold determination best expressed once in the words of President Reagan:

"Fellow Americans, our duty is before us. Let us go forward, determined to serve selflessly a vision of man with God, government for people, and humanity at peace. For it is now our task to tend and preserve, through the darkest and coldest nights, that 'sacred fire of liberty' that President Washington spoke of two centuries ago, a fire that... remains a beacon to all the oppressed of the world, shining forth from this kindly, pleasant, greening land we call America."

As we have once again marked the anniversary of America's birth, remembering and celebrating the marvelous inheritance of freedom, may we renew our resolve to preserve the legacy of hope and commitment to those self-evident truths that will enable us to pass the torch of Liberty to future generations. May God bless you all.

Most sincerely,



Congressman Trent Franks

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