

A DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

The Founding Document of the Purple Revolution

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We are heirs of the boldest experiment in human history, a nation founded on the idea that ordinary people, reasoning together, can govern themselves. For 250 years that idea has outlasted war, depression, and doubt, because every generation courageously renewed it. Now it is our turn.

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT

That all people are created equal, and endowed not only with rights but with responsibilities.

That America today is the result of a powerful mixture: of brave immigrants from around the world who risked everything to come to this land of opportunity; of the proud descendants of enslaved Africans, whose hands helped build this nation and whose courage has helped perfect it; and of the extraordinary native peoples whose continued presence imbues America with sacred ties to this special land we all call home.

That we Americans all depend upon one another, not by choice but by fact, and that our only choice is whether to face that fact wisely or foolishly.

GRATEFUL FOR RED, WHITE, AND BLUE

We declare our gratitude to the whole American family.

To those called red: thank you for guarding our liberty, honoring faith and family and flag, prizing hard work and self-reliance, and reminding us that what our parents built is worth keeping. While those values and contributions are not yours alone, your emphasis on them is part of what makes America great.

To those called blue: thank you for widening the circle of care, demanding fairness, defending the overlooked, and reminding us that what our founders promised is not finished until it reaches everyone. While those values and contributions are not yours alone, your emphasis on them is also part of what makes America great.

And to the many who wear neither red nor blue, the independents and the members of America's other parties, together now the largest of the three: in the flag we all salute, you are the white, the color of the stars themselves. Thank you for keeping your own counsel or charting your own course, weighing leaders by their deeds rather than their jerseys, and reminding us that parties exist to serve the country, never the other way around. While those values and contributions are not yours alone, your emphasis on them is another indispensable part of what makes America great.

Where red, white, and blue meet, purple emerges, erasing no color and honoring them all.

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

We were once called a melting pot, as if belonging required disappearing. For today's America, we choose a truer image. America is a Thanksgiving table. It is long enough for every family, sturdy enough to support its bounty, and welcoming of the whole American family. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, however you vote, and whatever you believe: there is a place set for you.

THE PURPLE PLEDGE

This Declaration asks no one to surrender their colors. We ask only that we carry them with recognition that it is the Stars and Stripes together that have made America the most prosperous and extraordinary country the world has ever known.

We therefore, the people of every party and of none, from every neighborhood in the land, never forgetting the tragedy of our Civil War, that division of our Union is not an option, and that a house divided cannot stand, appealing to our better judgment and to one another, do solemnly declare our interdependence and bind ourselves to this Pledge:

- ★ We will do our part in moving our country forward in a spirit of cooperation.
- ★ We will listen carefully and respectfully to our fellow citizens.
- ★ We will take the time to patiently examine the facts.
- ★ We will seek to find common ground in our goals.
- ★ We will debate with civility and intellectual honesty.
- ★ We will not seek to win arguments by disparaging those who disagree with us.
- ★ We will strive for stable solutions that work for the many, not just one faction.
- ★ We dedicate ourselves to working together through our differences as a small sacrifice to make for preserving and renewing this great American experiment.

These things we declare and so pledge,
in the 250th year of American independence,
and the first of American interdependence.

Signed,

WE THE PEOPLE