

U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN
TERRI SEWELL
REPRESENTING ALABAMA'S 7TH DISTRICT

Dear Friends,

On July 4th, 1776, the Founding Fathers of the United States signed the Declaration of Independence, announcing their separation from Great Britain and the dawning of a new nation. Written into that hallowed document was a promise to the American people of freedom and justice and liberty for all. These ideals of our brave, young nation are the ideals we uplift and celebrate today – they are the ideals that inspired me to run for Congress, and they are the principles that inspire so many Alabamians and Americans to enlist to defend of our country.

But, of course, in 1776, these ideals were not extended to all Americans.

Our Founding Father's vision was bold and ambitious, the experiment they embarked upon audacious. Over two-hundred years later, their same ideals and dreams remain ever present and relevant. Celebrating and uplifting these values on July 4th serves as a reminder of what our nation is truly about. However, as we celebrate, it is equally important that we reckon with the darker corners of America's past. For as much progress as we have made, every day it becomes clearer just how far we still need to go.

My unyielding patriotism comes from a deeply held belief in America's unique ability to do the challenging work necessary to create a more perfect union. I believe that as a nation we are strong enough to be transparent, to have difficult conversations and to do the sometimes excruciating work of reconciling with our past and building towards a better future. Certainly we have a long way to go, but if we can recommit to those same guiding principles that inspired not only our Founding Fathers, but the leaders and Foot Soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement, the Suffragettes and the many modern day activists fighting for equal rights and human decency, we can get there together, and we will be a stronger nation for it.

God bless you and God bless the United States.

Sincerely,



Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell

