



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 26, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

When things are difficult, I sometimes read a poem written on the wall of Mother Teresa's children's home in Calcutta.

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind,
people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful,
you will win some false friends and some true enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank,
people may cheat you.

Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building,
someone could destroy overnight.

Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness,
they may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today,
people will often forget tomorrow.

Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have,
and it may never be enough.

Give the best you've got anyway.

You see,

**In the final analysis it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.**

It has been my honor to serve with you in the United States House of Representatives. Due to the difficulties of my current circumstances, I can no longer effectively serve. I will resign from Congress effective March 31, 2022.

It has been my pleasure to call many of you friends. May God bless you as you labor for the good of our country, help those in need, and strive for what is right and just.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Fortenberry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" being more prominent and the last name "Fortenberry" following in a similar style.

Jeff Fortenberry