



FIRST. You all saw our news yesterday! We were the FIRST, the very FIRST campaign in the entire Commonwealth to qualify for the ballot! Not just first in our race (awesome!) but first of anyone in the entire delegation. Think about it: we are the most modestly funded of the approximately 13 Congressional candidates in this state, yet we met our obligation of 2000 signatures (actually, we surpassed it with 2220) before any of our colleagues, many of whom have been doing this for years.

Why? Because as I have promised you, we will do things smarter, faster and better than any of our competition. My record of delivering on my promises is unparalleled and our team has proven it once again. I have to give a special thanks to my incredible team for literally slogging it in the snow, rain, and bitter cold in February and March to bring us to this amazing accomplishment of being the first to qualify. Let me tell you it was not easy. Thank you team!

Now the next phase begins and we will need all the help we can get. I refuse to let big money dictate our lives and our politics and I refuse to sit back and accept that our politics has to be a money arms race. Who says it does? The PACsters and their ilk with all the big money say it does, but if you as Americans believe in truth and justice and believe that words and ideas should be more powerful than the PACsters, prove them wrong.

Everyone says they are sick of big money in politics but we are the only campaign doing something about it. I put the challenge to you: What are YOU doing about it? Can it really be that we as Americans are just going to sit back and accept a Congress that does nothing but run roughshod over our rights and liberties, invade our privacy and put their own job security above all? Can it really be that we are just going to sit back and let the billionaires buy and sell all politicians? Can it really be that in America a woman who works a full time job while campaigning, with national and state awards and an actual record of helping people is written off because her bank account isn't big enough? Really, are we just going to just sit back and take it? Hell No.

I am totally breaking the rules here by writing you a message that is more than 140 characters and telling you what I think and believe. I am totally breaking the rules by being the only woman in this entire state to challenge a sitting incumbent. I am totally breaking the rules by daring to believe that we don't have to accept the status quo. That's my record and I will not follow rules that I had nothing to do with setting up. I will not let any party leader or guru du jour tell me what is right and wrong.

Our current system of millionaires in Congress doing nothing but capitulate to the interests of billionaires is wrong and out of control. We must take back control of our lives and our politics. Somewhere along the way everyone has forgotten our history. Our founding mothers and fathers were the underdogs. They stood no chance against the most powerful empire on Earth. Yet they believed in themselves and their values and charged ahead and kicked out the British elite in an unexpected and resounding victory and changed history forever.

Now the elites are the incumbents in our do-nothing Congress. We have the power to kick them out and

demand that they work for us and not the other way around. Will you use that power and join me in this fight?

I will not stand by while people lose jobs and everything they've ever worked for just so the insider club can pretend to help hardworking Americans while I have been out here on Main Street actually helping people. It is unacceptable that we send the same sorry lot of politicians back to Washington decade after decade.

George Washington put an 8-year term limit on himself. I support term limits of 12 years for Congress. That is more than generous. Anyone who thinks he is better than the father of our country and is entitled to serve longer has a dangerously inflated ego and should not be making decisions that control our lives.

Let's break this thing wide open and create a new paradigm—a campaign of ideas, substance, and solutions. A campaign that is measured by the size of its real solutions and not the size of its bank account. A campaign that is measured by the way it breaks the moribund rules of the elite and not by the way it just follows the hollow "leaders". A campaign that can truly say it is of, by, and for the hardworking people of Main Street. A campaign led by a woman and her team of amazing women and men who prove every day that one person can make a difference. In essence, a campaign that actually lives the American ideal of victory for the underdogs. Please join us now and jump on board with the best team there is! Contact us today at [team@marisadefranco.com](mailto:team@marisadefranco.com) to volunteer and get involved.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marisa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the left.

Marisa DeFranco