

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Statement from Lori Furstenberg, Chair, DC Chapter of The Conservative Caucus On Ongoing Teen Rampages in Washington, D.C.**

Just days after our previous statement, Washington, DC has once again witnessed a disturbing display of disorder as hundreds of teens swarmed the Navy Yard in yet another “teen takeover.” This latest incident highlights what residents already know: THIS MUST END. The continued pattern of mass juvenile disruptions despite curfews and increased police presence, demonstrates the urgent need for real accountability and strong leadership. We stand in unequivocal support of U.S. Attorney Jeanine Pirro and her commitment to restoring law and order in the nation’s capital. Her call for meaningful consequences reflects the common-sense approach that Washington needs.

At a recent youth town hall, students spoke candidly about their frustrations- calling for advisors, more safe spaces, and stronger community connection. They also made one point unmistakably clear: they want to be heard. On that, they are absolutely right. But being heard must also come with being guided. What these young people are describing is not an argument against boundaries, structure, or accountability- actually, it is a call for them. Their concerns reflect a deeper need for direction, consistency, and support. For too long, DC's soft-on-crime policies and weak leadership have allowed disorder to take root, placing residents, businesses, and visitors at risk while failing to provide young people with the structure they need to succeed. A generation raised without boundaries is not experiencing freedom; they are being neglected.

If we are serious about addressing root causes, then we must be honest about what those causes are: decades of failed governance enabled by a one-party system insulated from accountability under the District’s current Home Rule structure. The results of this failure are visible across DC: failing schools, generational dependency, family disintegration, crime, homelessness, and chronic government waste and fraud. These are the predictable outcomes of a system that has operated without meaningful accountability for decades. Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 of the United States Constitution, Congress has both the authority and the responsibility to govern the nation’s capital when local leadership persistently fails; the clock is ticking. To restore accountability, public safety, and opportunity, the DC Chapter of The Conservative Caucus advances a clear plan-

#### **The Trifecta:**

#### **Conclude Home Rule: Dismantle Failed Governance and Restore Accountability.**

Restore constitutional accountability by reasserting exclusive congressional

oversight, even temporarily, breaking the cycle of one-party control that has allowed the misconduct and mismanagement to persist.

**Advance DC DOGE: Expose Waste and Fraud.**

A comprehensive accountability and efficiency initiative, leveraging and aligning existing agency oversight tools, designed to audit agencies, identify duplicative programs, eliminate misuse of funds, and restore fiscal discipline.

**Implement One & Done: End Family Disintegration.**

A structured early-intervention initiative ensuring first-time serious juvenile offenders face swift consequences, paired with education and guidance. This is how we give young people a real second chance by removing them from unstructured, high-risk environments and placing them on a path toward success.

To move from principle to action, and to put an end to these escalating teen takeovers, we urge the following immediate steps:

**Strengthen and Enforce Curfews.**

While curfews alone are not a complete solution, they remain a necessary and proven tool within a broader system of accountability that protects both youth and the community.

**Support Law Enforcement.**

Public safety depends on empowering those tasked with upholding the rule of law. If you become aware of planned “takeovers,” report them promptly to local authorities so they can respond proactively and prevent harm.

**Invest in Structured, Community-Based Youth Programs.**

Supervised, disciplined, safe environments that promote character, responsibility, and opportunity.

Washington, DC, the heart of America, is not a playground for lawlessness. Residents deserve safe streets, thriving neighborhoods, and leaders willing to act in accordance with the law. The youth of this city are asking for a future, and it is our responsibility to ensure they have access to the tools, guidance, and opportunity to achieve it.

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**Lori Furstenberg**

Chair, DC Chapter

The Conservative Caucus