



Miriam G. Cummins

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House District 15

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Speech for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vigil – September 19, 2020

I woke up this morning thinking that the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg it was just a bad dream and that I just have woken from a nightmare. I laid there on my bed, staring at the ceiling and slowly reality started hit that no, and it wasn't a dream, she really is gone.

She was a fighter. Not only did she fight cancer, illnesses, and discrimination, she paved a way for women to be at the table.

I am heartbroken of her passing. But I also fear where our country is going.

So many things have happened, and we are especially seeing them this 2020 year.

My fear consists of many layers, one of them being the stability of the United States of America.

The last four years, I have seen my Black and Brown brother and sisters, murdered, mistreated, and hated by those that have been put to protect us.

Our leader has said that it is okay to discriminate. That it is okay to hate. That it is ok to dehumanize the existence of people of color by saying "Make America Great Again".

Who do you think he is referring too? He sure isn't referring to Black, Indigenous, Brown, People of Color, I can tell you that!

America has always been great. And our founding fathers put into our constitution that "WE THE PEOPLE in order to form a MORE PERFECT union," more perfect union - As in we have work to do and we need to move forward, and not backwards.

So When I hear, Make America Great Again, I hear, let's bring back segregation. When I hear Make America Great Again I hear Let's bring back slavery. When I hear Make American Great Again, I hear let us bring back internment camps. And when I hear people say, Keep America Great, I hear, "Let's Keep America Racist."

Yes, you have the right to express and say what you will, that is your right. But it comes to a point, that you are going to be held accountable for your actions and for the things that you say and do.

Now that Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is gone, I fear that a door has been open in which laws will be pushed forward into which women, people of color, LGBTQ+ communities, are no longer going to be free and represented.

SHE was one that made sure to uphold the constitution and to make sure that WOMAN had a place at the TABLE.

She did her part, and she held on as long as her body could. BUT SHE DID HER PART.

Now, I am asking you to do your part!

The Election is in 45days.

Make sure that this November you vote! Make sure, especially now, more than ever, that you cast your vote. That is doing your PART. That is doing your constitutional right and voting for those that cannot vote and putting forward people in leadership that will uphold the law, represent you and hold those accountable. THAT IS DOING YOUR PART.

I am doing my part, not only voting, but also because I have seen the lack of representation, accountability and doing what is right for the people, and that is why I decided to run for State Representative for House District 15.

I saw a problem, and I decided to do something about it. I can tell you that it is not easy. Especially in these times, of COVID, Wildfires, as a parent doing distance learning with our children and now with the passing of RBG.

We need to make sure that we are there for one another, and to uplift each other. It takes a village, and you are my village. You are my family.

I am asking you, that this November, you vote. And you vote all the way through. Because we, the people, depend on every single vote.

And when you fill out your ballot, and you put it in the mail, share that moment with everyone. Let the nation know that you did YOUR PART, and that they need to do THEIRS.

Because remember, "we are the good trouble," and "real Change, enduring change, happens one step at a time."

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miriam G. Cummins".

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