

# Gerry Connolly

June 28, 2016

Dear Neighbor:

Since 2009, I've been honored to serve you in Congress. However, it's been sad to watch our national dialogue grow so bitter and divisive. Those of us in public office have a choice either to contribute to the harsh rhetoric and gridlock or find common ground to solve problems. While this Congress has failed to address a number of real challenges, it is still possible to work with both sides to get some things done.

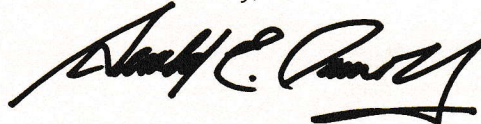
I helped assemble a bipartisan coalition to confront the crushing student loan debt facing so many young people. We enacted the Student Loan Certainty Act, allowing students to lock in lower interest rates. We also passed long-overdue legislation to replace No Child Left Behind and reduce the emphasis on unnecessary testing.

I helped pass a bipartisan budget agreement that reduces the damage sequestration does to the Northern Virginia economy. I helped pass legislation to make permanent the Research and Development Tax Credit that is critical to our high-tech companies, and we imposed enforceable trade standards on foreign corporations to make American businesses more globally competitive. And we fixed the payment formula for doctors serving Medicare patients.

Working with the business community, we built bipartisan support to pass the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act to modernize vital infrastructure and strengthen our economy. I have long demanded personnel changes and greater accountability at Metro, and now the leadership is working to restore a world-class Metro system that's safe and reliable.

Despite the vitriol of today's policy debates, there are some of us in Congress who are still devoted to working together in the national interest. I encourage your input on issues facing our country. Please email me at [GerryConnolly@mail.house.gov](mailto:GerryConnolly@mail.house.gov) to offer your opinions on legislation or other matters before Congress.

Sincerely,



Gerry Connolly  
Member of Congress  
11th District of Virginia

P.S. Please don't hesitate to call our office at 703-256-3071 if we can be of service.