

MARCOS J. URREA



for U.S. Congress

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I must inform you that this campaign has reached its conclusion.

I want to thank everyone who was a part of this process and who helped me along the way. Thank you to the many, many people from all walks of life who signed my petition and gave me a fighting chance. Thank you to everyone who donated to the campaign and gave me the resources to make a stand. Thank you to the multiple chapters and organizations in Southern Arizona and across the country who gave me the time and space to talk about the issues that are so important to the people of our community. And thank you to my team, who saw the behemoth of a mountain to climb and who were not intimidated.

As I walk away from this endeavor, I can say that though the end result is not what we had hoped for at the onset of this campaign, I am undoubtedly proud of the challenge we mounted. And while I do not make excuses for not having been able to be more competitive, it is important to remember that the structures in place that were so difficult for my team and myself to overcome, like restrictions on time as my team and I campaigned while working full-time, or the ballooning costs of a campaign, are the same that prevent so many community leaders from reaching elected positions to make the real changes we need.

I was so encouraged by the myriad conversations I had with people from Tucson to Douglas, at their doorsteps and on online forums, where our community is ready for bolder pushes to gain programs like Medicare For All and universal school meals. I spoke to people burdened with crushing student debt who have felt a semblance of relief since payments have been suspended, but who worry about when they may pick up again. And, of course, I spoke to environmental activists and many youth who are rightfully concerned about the changes we will continue to see as a result of climate change if we don't take the steps to change now. I say to my colleagues who remain in the race: Our community is ready for change. We're ready to take a step toward a better future. Please, embrace it.

For now, I will continue in the important work that I have been involved in, advocating for marginalized communities like the one I have come from. Advocating for immigrants, and refugees, and a humane immigration system. And I will continue in the community, pushing for the brighter future we deserve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Urrea', written in a cursive style.

Marcos J. Urrea