

## Adriaan DeVilliers For a Better District 71 Democracy at Risk

For a multitude of reasons, our politics have systematically become ever less civil, ever more divisive, and ever more intolerant. Particularly over the last 2 decades, politicians are more interested in generating Bills that pander to partisan rhetoric, rather than serve our citizens.

Today, there is a clear, unambiguous movement among an extremist, highly influential minority of the Republican party, to do away with the democratic form of government that has served us well since our founding days. Our democracy is what made America the greatest nation in the history of the modern world. We must not be complacent in the face of political rhetoric that includes phrases like "I'll be a dictator" for a short period of time, or public declarations equating a new America under his rule, to be a new "Reich".

We must send a clear, united, and unambiguous message against these undemocratic notions, by voting convincingly against this new form of extremism in November 2024, and by passing new Bills in our Tallahassee, to undo damage already done, and to honor the legacy bestowed upon us by the founding fathers, affirming our responsibility as citizens to cherish, nurture, and fiercely defend the principles of democratic governance.