



June 28, 2020

## One Thing at a Time

I tell my granddaughter, “I can only do one thing at a time.” That’s all most of us can do, if we are trying to do something well.

This week the House passed “wide ranging” legislation (134 pages) that Democrats know is going nowhere in the Senate. Republicans in the Senate put forward a “package” of reforms (106 pages) that they know won’t even come up for a vote.

Why? Both sides appear to be playing politics with an issue of vital importance to the People they “represent.” Both sides point to themselves and say, “See, we’re doing something.” Both sides point to the other side and accuse them of obstruction. Nothing is accomplished.

We don’t need games from our “leaders.” We Need Change.

I propose single issue legislation. I propose an end to riders, an end to unrelated amendments, an end to attaching legislation that cannot pass on its own. I propose single issue legislation that is written in clear language, of a reasonable length that the People and their Representatives can actually read and understand before a vote is taken.

Single issue legislation would reveal a legislator’s stand on an issue and increase transparency in government. For example, a legislator would draft a clearly worded bill that addresses the single issue of banning choke holds. Each legislator would be on the record. They support it. They don’t support it. Or they can’t commit one way or the other. Constituents could then hold legislators accountable for their vote.

If a legislator’s concern is progress, not politics and optics, they can propose one thing at a time and move our country forward.

-Liz Terwilliger