ETHICS IOU

To the Residents of New York's 20th Congressional District:

Like you, I am gravely concerned by the culture of corruption that has taken root among our elected officials. I am troubled by the special interest deals that are paid for out of the pockets of taxpayers here at home. I'm running for Congress to stop the damage that is being done to our country, and bring accountability back to our government.

The good news is that with some common sense actions, we can return to our great tradition of open democratic debate and start to put our country back on the right track.

This IOU outlines the changes we must make. It is my written, signed commitment to you of the kind of representation you can expect from me.

It's Our Understanding:

I WILL WORK TO ESTABLISH A PERMANENT, INDEPENDENT ETHICS COUNCIL: I will support the creation of a non-partisan council that will provide oversight and investigation into the dealings of Members in the House.

I WILL REPORT ALL MEETINGS I HAVE WITH LOBBYISTS: I will disclose any meetings that I have with lobbyists and what was discussed.

I WILL NOT HELP MEMBERS CASH IN: No member of Congress that I have served with who becomes a lobbyist will be allowed to lobby me or my staff on any issue after that member has left Congress.

I WILL NOT HELP LOBBYISTS CASH IN: No former member of my staff who becomes a lobbyist will be allowed to lobby me or my staff on any issue after they have left my employment.

I WILL NOT GIVE SPECIAL FAVORS TO FAMILY MEMBERS: No direct relation to me or any member of my staff who is a lobbyist will be allowed to lobby me or my staff.

I WILL NOT HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS ON PAYROLL: No family member of mine or any of my staff members will be on my congressional or campaign payroll. There will be no "slush funds" to pay family members.

I WILL NOT TAKE PRIVATELY FUNDED TRIPS: I will not accept any privately funded trips paid for by lobbyists or lobbyist's charities. If I take a campaign-related trip, the campaign will pay for it. If I take an official trip, my Congressional office will pay for it. If I take a vacation, I will pay for it.

I WILL NOT TAKE LOBBYIST GIFTS: I will not accept gifts from any lobbyist. My staff will not accept such gifts either.

I WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE AND ACCESSIBLE: I will be accessible to everyone regardless of party, location in the district, or position. I will hold monthly open meetings during the campaign and when elected.

Kirsten E. Gillibrand

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