

## What does independence mean today?



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Friend,

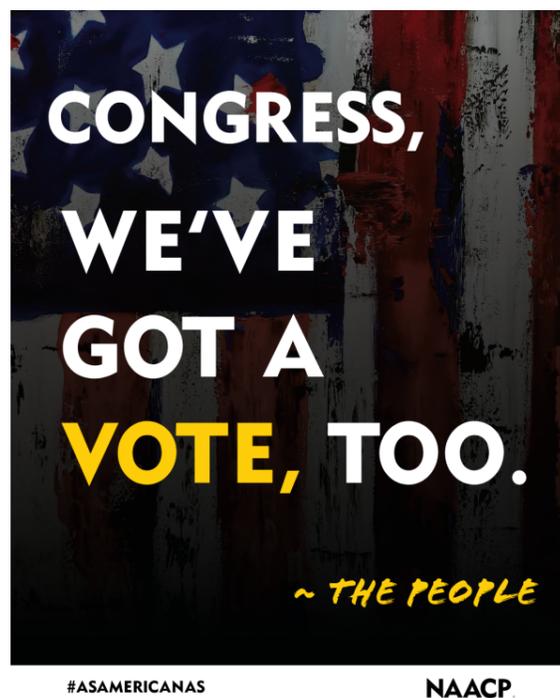
### **What to the slave is the Fourth of July?**

*"I say it with a sad sense of the disparity between us. I am not included within the pale of glorious anniversary! Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us."*

Sadly, these powerful words from abolitionist Frederick Douglass still resonate today. As our nation celebrates its independence, we are reminded that the promise of liberty and equality still remains unfulfilled for many.

This week, Congress voted to advance President Trump's "Big, Ugly Bill," a federal budget bill that threatens the health, well-being, and livelihood of millions of Americans while lining the pockets of billionaires.

**The American people won't forget who stood with them in this critical moment, and who didn't.**



I'm proud of how fiercely we fought to stop this dangerous bill from passing, Friend. But our fight isn't over. We, the people, still hold the power of our vote.

**When it comes time to reelect those who voted against the best interests of the American public, let's remind them where WE stand with our voices and our vote.**

For over a century, the NAACP has led the charge for civil rights, fighting to ensure liberty and justice for all, regardless of race, gender, or background. But progress demands continued action.

Let's honor the true spirit of independence by continuing to stand up for the American people with everything we have.

**The fight continues. Stay tuned.**

Keep Advancing,

Derrick Johnson  
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President and CEO  
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