

**ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**  
3RD DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4603**

September 30, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write in support of the application for pardon of Mr. Don Leonard Scott, Jr. Don is a constituent and resident of Portsmouth, Virginia. I have known him for more than a decade and have followed his work, community advocacy, and career in public service very closely.

Don will be the first to admit that he made a life-changing mistake as a young man while attending law school at Louisiana State University. I know he regrets the choice he made at that time. The man he is today, however, exemplifies integrity, responsibility, and fidelity to the law. His story demonstrates what the goal of our justice system should be – rehabilitation and restorative justice.

After serving eight years in federal prison, Don rebuilt his life. He has become a model citizen. Starting from an entry level position in a workforce development company, he rose to the position of senior vice president. Motivated by the injustices he personally experienced in our criminal justice system and a firm desire to finish what he started, he took the bar exam, passed, and opened his own law practice.

Don then got involved in his community and active in local politics. He was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 2019 and elected by his colleagues as House Minority Leader in 2022. After Democrats won the majority in the House of Delegates in the 2023 General Assembly elections, Don was unanimously elected Speaker – the first African American to hold the position in Virginia's 405-year history.

Outside of his impressive professional accomplishments, Don is a dedicated husband and father. He understands the importance of the second chance that so many have given him. He has never taken that for granted. His willingness to serve his fellow man was exemplified by his decision to become a kidney donor to a friend. I believe he has more than demonstrated that he is deserving of a presidential pardon.

I hope that you will give his application for a pardon your full and fair consideration so that he can once again enjoy all the rights, privileges, and benefits of citizenship.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
Member of Congress