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The Honorable Angela Alsobrooks
Democratic Nominee for the U.S. Senate, Maryland
Democratic National Convention
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Remarks as Prepared for Delivery

Good evening, America. And hello, Maryland!

People like me, stories like mine, don't usually make it to the United States Senate. But they should.

I'm the proud granddaughter of a housekeeper who raised three children in a one-bedroom apartment. It was her dream to work in government and help people. That meant taking a typing test—but she didn't know how to type, and she couldn't afford a typewriter. So, she put a white piece of paper on the refrigerator and drew a keyboard on it. Every night, she stood in front of that refrigerator and taught herself to type. She took the test, passed it, and got the job she'd dreamed of. I am her legacy.

And tonight, I am a candidate for United States Senate from the great state of Maryland.

I've always been inspired by women like my grandmother—women who imagine a better future and then have the grit to make it a reality. One of those women is a friend, a mentor, and a role model. That woman is Kamala Harris. Let me tell you about the Kamala I've known for 14 years.

I first heard about her in 2009, when I was running for state's attorney in Prince George's County, Maryland. I read a story in Essence magazine about a district attorney in San Francisco using new ideas to keep her community safe. Few had a better record prosecuting violent crime. She put rapists, child molesters, and murderers behind bars.

But what she knew was that violent crime accounts for 30 percent of all crimes. For the 70 percent that are non-violent, she created a first-of-its-kind program called Back on Track. After serving time and pleading guilty, these low-level offenders would get the job training, GED help, and apprenticeships they needed to find a job.

The result? The recidivism rate plummeted.

After reading about this super-bad district attorney, I talked non-stop about her on the campaign trail. Two days after I won the election, my phone rings. It's Kamala Harris, calling to congratulate me and ask how she could help.

She helped me bring Back on Track to Maryland. Crime went down, and economic growth went up. Back on Track is now a national model.

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Now, Donald Trump says if Kamala Harris is elected, tough guys will treat her like a “play toy.” Do you know who else thought that? The drug cartels she busted. The Big Oil companies she made pay for polluting. The big banks she made pay a record \$20 billion to homeowners they ripped off.

Getting justice for others isn't a power trip for her—it's a sacred calling. Kamala Harris knows how to keep criminals off the streets. And come November, with our help, she'll keep one out of the Oval Office.

Ever since Donald Trump rode down that ridiculous escalator, we as a nation have been trapped. Every national decision has been made in reaction to this one man and his extremist MAGA movement. We are still frozen by the fear that Donald Trump might once again come to power.

It's not just our politics that's been trapped. It's our imagination. And then, Kamala came along.

Kamala has reminded us that we don't need to fear anything. Not the future and certainly not that man.

This is our moment to leave Donald Trump where he belongs: in America's past. We stand with Kamala Harris because we as a country are not going back.

For the ancestors who sat at lunch counters and made sure that we all had the right to vote, we are not going back. For the mothers and grandmothers who marched to make sure that women could control our own bodies, we are not going back. For all the parents who work from can't-see in the morning till can't-see at night so their children would have a better life, we are not going back.

When facing an obstacle, my father has always said, “Your faith is stronger than your fears.” Tonight, our faith is stronger than our fears.

Faith in the promise of America—in the American values we share. Faith that we, the people, can choose a new leader—and a better future—for the people. Faith that as dark as our days and challenges have sometimes felt, it's always darkest before the dawn.

We know that we can endure for a night because joy cometh in the morning. Morning is coming. And that joy is Kamala Harris. Thank you.

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