# Prominent Business Leaders and Donors Urge President Biden to Step Down Amid Re-Election Concerns



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Several prominent business leaders and Democratic megadonors are urging President Joe Biden to step aside for the 2024 presidential race following a poor performance in a recent debate against Donald Trump. The Leadership Now Project, a coalition of 400 politically active executives, called upon Biden to transfer leadership to the next generation of Democrats, citing fears of an "existential threat" to democracy with a potential second Trump term.

Daniella Ballou-Aares, CEO of Leadership Now Project, indicated significant member support for this stance. High-profile members, including Jeni Britton Bauer of Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams and Thomas W. Florsheim Jr. of Weyco Group, backed the statement.

Renowned Democratic donor Reed Hastings, co-founder of Netflix, also publicly recommended that Biden step aside. He emphasized the need for vigorous Democratic leadership to ensure electoral success against Trump. His comments echo growing sentiment within the party concerned about Biden's ability to lead effectively, citing his advanced age and recent debate performance.

Despite these calls, the White House reaffirmed Biden’s commitment to run in 2024, with Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre asserting that the president is "absolutely not" considering dropping out. President Biden has also denied any intention of withdrawing, reiterating his determination to continue his campaign and assure his team and supporters of his capability to contest and win the election.

Biden's debate performance has led to a noticeable drop in his support, with recent polls showing Trump leading in key swing states. However, internal discussions and public declarations from influential donors and business leaders suggest a growing momentum for an alternative Democratic candidate. The path forward remains uncertain as the Democratic Party grapples with strategic decisions in the face of upcoming crucial campaign events.