

## Memorandum RE: Seth Moulton's Impact on the Race

To: Interested Parties

From: Moulton for America

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Seth ran a bold and honorable campaign, bringing several unique perspectives to a field of unprecedented size. Entering the race late and with lower name ID than other candidates, he always faced long odds. But as the only candidate in the field who has led troops in combat, Seth was uniquely qualified to take on Donald Trump not just as president, but as commander in chief—something he will continue to do because it's where Trump is weakest. Throughout the course of this race, Seth drove the debate on issues no one else was talking about before he raised them, and he always campaigned with integrity.

### Seth Refused to Let Republicans Own Foreign Policy and Patriotism

- Seth drove the national conversation on foreign policy, national security, and defense and redefined what a Democratic message on these issues can look like.
- He unveiled a [bold, next-generation foreign policy agenda; called for an increase in cyber security and the creation of a "cyber wall;" outlined a comprehensive plan to counter China, including by creating a Pacific version of NATO; and called on a new generation of leaders to modernize our arms and alliances moving forward.](#)
- It was said of Seth that "[he has brought veterans issues to the forefront in his campaign...he has a robust platform on \[national security and foreign policy\]...something we barely saw come up in the debates.](#)"
- Seth's proven leadership skills, "character," and his next generation thinking on foreign policy and defense earned him the [endorsement of retired United States Army four-star general and leading national service advocate Stan McChrystal](#). This was the only major endorsement from a respected leader in national security in the 2020 cycle.

### Seth Impacted the Policy Discussion and Was A Leader on Issues Important to Voters

- Even before entering the race, Seth was taking strong positions important to voters that solidified him as a progressive voice on issues including climate change, gun safety, and reforming our democracy. [He called for abolishing the electoral college and Senate filibuster, a new Voting Rights Act, and redefined the Green New Deal in economic terms.](#)
- As a candidate, Seth introduced [the boldest national service plan in the field, called for the restoring of benefits to LGBTQ service members who had been dishonorably discharged because of their orientation,](#) and became [the first presidential candidate in history to speak personally about mental health when he described dealing with post-traumatic stress when he came home from the Iraq War. He also introduced the boldest mental health agenda of any presidential candidate ever.](#)
- Recently, [Seth has been using his platform to call for impeachment](#)—something he voted for almost two years ago, before any other candidate in the field. While others

have been giving the same stump speech across the county, Seth has been making the case for putting country over party and constitution over politics.

- As the only candidate in the race who receives single-payer healthcare (through the VA), [Seth spoke with authority about ways to strengthen and improve Obamacare, by incorporating a single-payer option that competes with private options in a regulated market, as opposed to forcing Americans onto a single, government-run plan.](#)

### **Seth Showed He Can Successfully Campaign In Places Democrats Lost in 2016—and He Took That Message Everywhere**

- [Following the success of his efforts through Serve America last cycle](#), Seth went places Democrats have been ignoring, and he received a warm reception. Whether in Northern New Hampshire, Greenville, South Carolina, or American Legion Halls in Las Vegas, Seth showed he wasn't afraid to show up where we lost in 2016 and have honest, frank conversations about Democratic values.
- In the last few weeks, [Seth has also used his campaign to lift up down-ballot candidates in early states](#)—the type of party building we need in order to not just win in 2020, but to secure the majority for years to come.
- Seth also wasn't afraid to take his message directly to conservative voters. He appeared frequently on [FOX News](#) as part of an aggressive, all-access, press strategy that included non-traditional outlets and podcasts. Seth helped redefine the audience Democrats are speaking to, something that will help us be successful in the coming months and years ahead.

Going forward, Seth plans to continue to play a forceful role in the Democratic Party and the national debate. He is focused on his work as a Massachusetts Congressman and will be running to represent his district again in 2020. During these past few months, it has become even more clear how important this election is—up and down the ballot—and that is why Seth will be re-launching his Serve America PAC with a new and aggressive focus that will help Democrats win in 2020 and beyond. Seth is going to invest in the places we need to win back, and he'll continue to be a leading voice in the party on foreign policy and national security, mental healthcare, national service, gun reform, and veterans issues in the process. And he will never stop fighting to lift up a new generation of leadership in the Democratic Party.

Although it might not have been Seth's year, he leaves the race with an enhanced national profile, having proved himself to be a next-generation foreign policy leader in the Democratic Party who has broad appeal. We are very proud of the campaign we ran, the issues we championed, and the opportunity we had to introduce Seth to America. It was noted that Seth is a "[pioneer in politics](#)" and that "[no other candidate is presently offering anything close to \[the\] level of \[foreign policy\] analysis](#)" that Seth did. To quote one Iowa caucus-goer, "[If it's not now, his time will come. I think he's really something.](#)"

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