Democrats Meet Over Whether Biden Should Drop Out of 2024 Election

The Democratic Party faces uncertainty as concerns mount over President Joe Biden's re-election campaign. With heightened emotions among party members and divergent views on Biden's ability to secure a second term, internal discussions continue to intensify.

Dems Hold Private "Family Meeting" To Share Growing Concerns

The Democratic Party held a private "family meeting" Tuesday to discuss the viability of President Joe Biden's candidacy. There's a deepening concern among congressional Democrats about Biden's ability to lead the party to victory in the upcoming election. Some participants described the discussions as "rough" and "sobering."

Many Democrats fear Biden's age and recent debate performance could harm his presidential campaign. They're also concerned about how down-ballot races could play out, which could impact control of the House and Senate. The situation continues to drive a noticeable wedge within the party, with Rep. Mikie Sherrill becoming the seventh Democratic leader to call for Biden to step aside.

Internal Democratic Party Dynamics at Play

The internal dynamics within the Democratic Party are undoubtedly complex. During the private meeting at the Democratic National Committee, House Democrats spent more than two hours expressing their concerns.

The atmosphere was tense, with cellphones collected at the door to prevent leaks. Lawmakers voiced fears that Biden's age and health issues could overshadow the campaign and shift the focus away from critical topics like Donald Trump and the Supreme Court.

While many House Democrats continue to support Biden, there's a growing sentiment that his stubbornness to stay in the race could lead to an electoral disaster. The frustration and sadness were palpable, with some describing the meeting as a "funeral" for those worried about Biden's candidacy.

Divergent Views Continue To Segment Democratic Leaders

The Democratic Party is far from united on this issue. While members like Rep. Steven Cohen and Rep. Mike Quigley openly express their doubts about Biden's chances, others remain supportive.

For instance, Rep. Jerry Nadler initially wanted Biden to step aside but later reaffirmed his support after a private call with the president. Rep. Jim Clyburn, a critical supporter in Biden's 2020 victory, has reiterated his backing by stating, "We're riding with Biden."

The divergence of views is creating a challenging situation for the party. Many members who privately harbor concerns about Biden's candidacy feel powerless to influence the problem due to Biden's firm stance on running for a second term.

Will President Biden's Campaign Impact Down-Ballot Races?

One of the primary concerns among Democrats is the potential impact of Biden's candidacy on down-ballot races. Some lawmakers fear that focusing on Biden's health and age issues could distract from other critical campaign themes and jeopardize their chances of retaining control of Congress. The concern is particularly acute among vulnerable lawmakers grappling with challenging re-election prospects.

In response to these worries, Democrats are attempting to shift the narrative towards other pressing issues, such as Donald Trump's proposed policies, denouncing Project 2025, and the actions of the Supreme Court. However, the distraction caused by internal debates over Biden's candidacy remains a significant hurdle.

Will Democrats Present a United Front Come November?

The Democratic Party is clearly at a crossroads. Ongoing discussions about Biden's candidacy reflect deep-seated concerns about the party's future and its ability to present a united front in the upcoming election.

With the Democratic National Convention just a little over a month away, the pressure to resolve these issues is mounting. Conversations and debates will shape the path forward as the party tries to overcome these challenges. However, one thing is clear: they desperately must find a way to balance their concerns about Biden's candidacy with the need to present a cohesive campaign strategy.