



September 5, 2024

Linsey Davis
David Muir
ABC News
7 West 66th Street
New York, NY 10023

Re: Candidates' Opportunity to Clarify Their Stances on Cryptocurrency

Dear Ms. Davis and Mr. Muir,

On behalf of Chamber of Progress - a tech industry coalition promoting technology's progressive future - **I urge you to raise the topic of digital assets at the upcoming presidential debate.** For the 18 million Americans currently holding or trading in cryptocurrency, passing bipartisan digital asset regulations is front and center this election cycle.

Voters deserve to know where the nominees stand on crypto before they head to the ballot box in November. As the moderators of the first primetime debate between Vice President Harris and President Donald Trump, you have an opportunity to illuminate the candidates' stances on crypto.

As Adoption Increases, Crypto Policy Impacts Election Outlook

Every day, more and more Americans interact with digital assets. Nationwide, one in five Americans have bought, traded, or used cryptocurrency.¹ And this trend remains consistent across different demographics. According to the Pew Research Center, some 20 percent of Black, Hispanic, and Asian U.S. adults have utilized cryptocurrency.² Notably, the Kansas City Federal Reserve found that Black investors, in particular, are more likely to own crypto than stocks or mutual funds.³

¹ CNBC. [One in five adults has invested in, traded or used cryptocurrency. NBC News poll shows.](#) March 31, 2022.

² Pew Research Center. [Majority of Americans aren't confident in the safety and reliability of cryptocurrency.](#) April 10, 2023.

³ Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. [The Cryptic Nature of Black Consumer Cryptocurrency Ownership.](#) June 1, 2022.



Overwhelmingly, this is an issue important to Gen Z and Millennial voters, with over 50 percent of those age groups supporting a federal policy that encourages digital asset use in the U.S.⁴

According to nationwide polling, 52 percent of voters believe more cryptocurrency regulation is needed.⁵ Additionally, one in five registered voters consider cryptocurrency regulation a major voting issue in the upcoming election.⁶

Lack of Clarity from Presidential Candidates

Former President Donald Trump has reversed his previous position on cryptocurrency and has committed to courting the crypto vote.⁷ While Vice President Harris has not yet announced a cryptocurrency policy agenda, a top advisor recently spoke positively about Harris' interest in crypto regulation that protects consumers.⁸

Both candidates should shed more light on their positions and explain how we can nurture digital assets while also providing greater consumer protection. A crypto question at September's debate could bring voters some much-needed clarity on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Bligen".

Kyle Bligen
Director of Financial Policy
Chamber of Progress

⁴ Chamber of Progress. [Poll: Democratic Voters Views on Crypto](#). September 21, 2021.

⁵ Crypto Council for Innovation. [Poll: Crypto Ownership Widespread Among Voter Demographics](#). November 8, 2022.

⁶ Blockchain Association. [Crypto, Swing States, and the 2024 Election](#). May 7, 2024.

⁷ NBC News. [Donald Trump flips on crypto: From 'scam' to building a 'crypto army'](#). June 15, 2024

⁸ Bloomberg. [Kamala Harris Supports Policies to Expand Crypto Industry, Aide Says](#). August 21, 2024.