

based on firsthand comments. It is based on secondhand gossip.

And I can tell you, what I have heard for over 60 hours needs to be heard by the American people, because ultimately this President did nothing wrong. And we need to make sure that we send a clear message to the rest of America that we are a transparent body, not one that is held with secrets.

And yet here we are with ADAM SCHIFF providing leading questions, trying to actually get to a foregone conclusion in his mind. It is time that we hold him accountable and the rest of this body. Open it up. Let's be transparent. Let's send a message to the Senate, who ultimately is going to have to be the judge and jury of this. It is time that we put the facts on the table. The facts will exonerate our President.

#### HONORING SALEM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, in 1884, residents of Salem County, south Jersey gathered at the local library with the intent of protecting the history of the region. This group established the Salem County Historical Society and began regular meetings all the way back in 1885. Now the museum allows visitors to wander the exhibits and admire the historical artifacts.

It was Albert Einstein who once said, "learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." It has also been said that you cannot truly understand who you are and what you are about as a society if you don't know who you were and where you were in the past.

It is because of the crucial role of the Salem County Historical Society that we are better able to learn from our past in south Jersey as we move towards a better tomorrow.

Thank you for preserving the past of south Jersey and providing educational experiences for the members of our community. You truly are stars.

#### DEMOCRATS ARE TRYING TO IMPEACH THE PRESIDENT FOR FOLLOWING A LAW THAT THEY VOTED FOR

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, in 2014 this House unanimously passed the Ukraine Freedom Support Act. That legislation authorized funds to "counter corruption, and improve transparency and accountability of institutions that are part of the Government of Ukraine." Every Democrat voted for that legislation.

In 2017, the House passed 375-34 with 145 Democrats supporting the National Defense Authorization Act, which re-

quired the executive branch to certify that Ukraine was making certain defense reforms and countering corruption.

In 2018, Congress reauthorized that language, and 127 Democrats supported it.

And finally in 2019, they reauthorized that again with 139 Democrats supporting it.

The President not only had the authority to do what he did in the call with President Zelensky, he had a legal obligation to do so.

Madam Speaker, this Democrat majority is trying to impeach the President for following a law that they voted for.

#### DEMOCRATS ARE WORKING HARD TO SAFEGUARD THE HEALTH OF OUR NATION

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, the Republicans in the House are all lined up to whine about an investigation that the majority of Americans want to see happen.

While the President of the United States has the gall to compare this constitutional process to the horrific history of lynching in this country, House Democrats are busy working hard to safeguard the healthcare of Americans.

H.R. 3 is a transformative piece of legislation, a historic step forward to finally control the extraordinarily high prices of the pharmaceutical companies. Negotiation is the most effective way to protect consumers from Big Pharma's predatory pricing practices, and the Congressional Budget Office said that at least \$345 billion will be realized in savings when we pass this bill.

Madam Speaker, 90 percent of Democrats, 87 percent of independents, and 80 percent of Republicans want this legislation. Get busy and help the American people.

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#### STOP THE IMPEACHMENT THEATER

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, our duly elected President took office, and even before that, House Democrats have been calling for his impeachment.

The rationale may keep changing, and it will, but their quest for impeachment has been never-ending. Yet for some reason, this impeachment inquiry is being conducted behind closed doors, leaving many Members of this body and the American people, most importantly, in the dark.

Is that fairness?

They are even refusing to take a formal vote here on the House floor. A

fair and open process appears to be the least of their concerns.

Instead of wasting valuable time with this baseless inquiry, there is so much more we could and should be doing.

We could be ratifying the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement to help manufacturers and farmers in my district in Michigan and across the country.

We could be working in a bipartisan fashion to lower healthcare costs, to continue growing a healthy economy, and to rebuild our roads and bridges.

Let's stop the impeachment theater and get back to the pocketbook issues that our constituents care about.

#### WE THE PEOPLE GROW WEARY

(Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, the Democrats' entire case against the President is built on hearsay, unverified third-party accounts, and opinion.

No cop in America could righteously make any arrest with that degree of evidence, not even a misdemeanor, much less something as sobering as the impeachment of our duly elected President.

They tread upon the very colors of our flag. Contrary to our constitutional oath, they are conducting a secret investigation disguised as an impeachment inquiry, calling forth only prosecutorial hearsay demonstration, hearsay testimony deemed most likely to condemn the President, witnesses selected and screened by ADAM SCHIFF.

True investigators interview everyone, not just those who lead to a predetermined conclusion. Democrats are handpicking witnesses and selectively releasing information to mislead the American people.

This is dangerous, it is wrong, and we the people grow weary.

#### OPPOSING IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. MOOLENAAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Madam Speaker, the impeachment inquiry underway in the House has been shrouded in secret meetings and out of view from the American people.

My constituents have told me that they oppose this investigation and they believe the House should be taking up legislation that needs to be done to help hardworking Michigan residents.

First and foremost, the House should pass the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement without delay. This agreement will benefit hardworking Michigan residents, especially in industries vital to our State, including manufacturing and agriculture. They will have new markets for their products, and the profits they make will come

back to our communities in mid and northern Michigan.

I have also been a strong advocate for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and for funding the construction of a new lock at the Soo Locks.

Yet these priorities are now funded under a temporary stopgap, and after weeks of delays caused by Senate Democrats who want to renegotiate, we now face the prospect of an impeachment trial that will bog down activity in the Senate even further in the future.

#### POLITICALLY MOTIVATED CHARADE

(Mr. BERGMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, since November 9, 2016, Democrats have been calling for the removal of President Trump.

Even before he took office, they have been protesting the results of the election and have sought to delegitimize his historic win in battleground States like Michigan.

Breaking with historical precedent, House Democrat leadership will not hold a vote on this extremely consequential matter. House Democrats have created a toxic work environment, resulting in nothing getting done, no good policy or law created, no regular order.

This is a politically motivated charade attempting to undermine and diminish the effectiveness of a duly elected President and his administration based on bias, prejudice, and disgraceful politics.

The people of the First District of Michigan sent me here to work with others to get things done and represent the people with honor and integrity. I am sure my 434 colleagues were sent here with the same mission.

It is high time to get back to real work.

#### SHAM IMPEACHMENT PROCESS

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the sham impeachment process being run out of this esteemed House.

As House Democrats continue to pursue politically motivated attacks on President Trump, it is alarming that their leaders are withholding evidence and facts from elected Members of our Congress.

Last week, I sent letters to the chairs of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inform them of my intent as an elected Member of the 116th Congress to review documents and records in possession of

their committees. We must be allowed to do our jobs.

The fair choice is clear. We cannot allow House Democrats to continue issuing political attacks behind the safety of clandestine, closed doors.

Madam Speaker, I stand for transparency and I stand for accountability. I stand for fairness. It is time for this body to restore its integrity.

#### CLOAK-AND-DAGGER IMPEACHMENT

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, this cloak-and-dagger impeachment process is unprecedented, uncalled for, and unfair to the American people.

When I, a Member of Congress, am turned away from reading testimony from Chairman SCHIFF's closed-door hearings, how can I keep informed on a narrative that is constantly changing?

How are we supposed to know all the facts when the Intelligence Committee is selectively leaking information to the press, creating a biased narrative while shrouding the truth in darkness?

Will we ever get information before there is a vote on impeachment, or will the Speaker continue allowing secret hearings and inquiries to drag on?

These are questions every American should be asking.

Impeachment undoes an election and is the most serious tool Congress can use. We should treat it as such. Instead, we have seen Democrats calling for it since before President Trump was even inaugurated.

One of my Democrat colleagues recently said: If President Trump isn't guilty, he needs to prove it.

That is not how America works. It is the Speaker's responsibility to lay out the evidence in an open, transparent way so we can debate it and vote on it.

#### IMPEACHING WITH A VENGEANCE

(Mr. BYRNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, today the Democratic majority is not judging the President with fairness, but impeaching him with a vengeance.

In the investigation of the President, fundamental principles which Americans hold dear, privacy, fairness, checks and balances, have been seriously violated, and why? Because we are here today because the Democrats in the House are paralyzed with hatred of President Trump, and until the Democrats free themselves of this hatred, our country will suffer.

Now, if that sounds familiar, you have got a longer memory than the Democrats. Those same comments, but addressing Republicans' actions towards President Clinton, were made by NANCY PELOSI in 1998.

Could there be a clearer indication of the hypocrisy that fuels the Demo-

cratic sham impeachment process currently taking place behind closed doors?

If Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats truly care about, in PELOSI's own words, "the fundamental principles which Americans hold dear, privacy, fairness, checks and balances," they will restore transparency and integrity to this process.

#### IMPEACHMENT SAD ACT OF POLITICAL THEATER

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, time and again my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have made it clear that this impeachment process is nothing but a sad act of political theater.

The impeachment of a President, the attempt to insert the U.S. Congress between the American people and the President they elected 3 years ago, the attempts by this House leadership to prevent the American people from making their choice in the election next November, this is a serious matter and must not be abused as a tool for partisan gain or advantage in the next election.

I have witnessed Democrats on the Judiciary Committee, as a proud member of that committee, repeatedly fail to find evidence to support a case for impeaching this President.

Now, in the realization of this fact and at the expense of fundamental fairness and due process, the Speaker has removed any further investigation from the Judiciary Committee so that impeachment can be conducted in secret and out of public view—no vote to proceed, no public hearings, no access to testimony, no ability to call witnesses.

This is a sham, and the American people won't have it any longer.

#### IMPEACHMENT IN THE SHADOWS

(Mr. ADERHOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, the Democrats continue to investigate the President in secret back rooms of the Capitol in the Intelligence Committee.

If the Speaker believes that the Members of Congress can ultimately vote and impeach the President based on bogus evidence that has never seen the light of day, then she is badly mistaken.

In the past 50 years, this body has held impeachment proceedings for only two Presidents: One was a Democrat; one was a Republican. Those were serious times when both parties came together to conduct solemn business required under the Constitution, a document that we as Members of Congress are sworn to uphold.

Conducting this impeachment process in the shadows is a mockery of the