

three cases, the impeachment inquiry was first properly authorized by a full vote of this House.

Of course, today's sham was initiated unilaterally via a press conference. We haven't had a vote. They won't give us one.

There is no due process for the accused, but, instead, there is a secret, partisan process somewhere behind closed doors.

There is no respect or recognition for the rights of the duly elected Members of this House, even those of us on the committees of jurisdiction, like my House Judiciary Committee.

It is unprecedented and it is also dangerous. And this is the biggest point: Corrupting and weaponizing impeachment to generate a predetermined political outcome is simply not right or fair, and it jeopardizes this entire institution.

Do you know why? Because, if the American people are not able to trust the final results of the impeachment process on a matter this serious and this important, millions of citizens lose faith in the institution and lose faith in our Republic.

This is a sham, and it needs to stop.

DEMOCRATS ARE FOCUSING ON POLITICAL GAMES

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

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of the Fifth District who are tired of the Democrats focusing on political games.

This past weekend, at an American Legion dinner, I was handed this note: Pass USMCA.

Folks at home want Congress to act on jobs, the economy, and lower healthcare costs; but what they are hearing from the Democrats in the House: secret proceedings that deny access to House Members who do not serve on the respective committees; no press access; no ability to defend oneself by bringing witnesses, taking depositions, or having one's attorney present; and being accused by an unknown witness who claims secondhand knowledge.

Where is the pride that we have in our sense of justice? Where is due process? Where are the rules? Where are the American values of fair play? Where is the evidence? Where is the House vote?

Read the unclassified transcript. The Democrats created a Star Chamber. This is a bold attempt to overturn the 2016 election. It is time to shine a bright light on what is going on.

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KANSANS HAVE IMPEACHMENT FATIGUE

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, Kansans have impeachment fatigue. We are exhausted. We are weary. We are sick and tired of 3 years of Democrats trying to change the results of the 2016 election.

Kansans want to know why Congress can't pass USMCA, modernize healthcare, or secure our border.

Regardless, if the Democrats want to go down into the bowels of this Capitol, into the soundproof Star Chamber, it is my job to be the eyes and ears of Kansans and to ensure a fair and due process will occur. My efforts to do this thus far have been denied by the Democrats.

This entire process is anything but fair and defies democracy. But what is worse, it is all done in secret.

This Ukrainian hoax has turned into a Soviet-styled silencing of the press, with the Democrats leaking out only portions of the transcript that might help keep them from allowing Donald Trump to be reelected again.

Why isn't the press screaming bloody murder? I will never understand.

Madam Speaker, it is the President's job to investigate corruption. Let's turn this process back to the people, and let the President make his case to America.

FOLLOW IMPEACHMENT PRECEDENT

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution reads the House of Representatives "shall have the sole power of impeachment."

This Speaker does not have that sole power. The full House of Representatives does.

Modern precedent clearly sets out a process for fair consideration of impeachment. It was followed by Democrats in the case of President Nixon and followed by Republicans in the case of President Clinton.

The Speaker has turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to fairness and precedent. Authoritarianism is now the rule of the people's House. A Star Chamber hidden away in the Capitol basement is the domain of authoritarianism.

Where is the due process? Where is the transparency? Abandoned.

Where is the ability to confront accusers? Where is the separation of prosecution and grand jury? Abandoned. Abandoned by our Speaker.

I call on the majority to put aside partisanship and pointless attacks and get back to work.

END IMPEACHMENT CHARADE

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Speaker, the Democrats would have you believe that

their impeachment crusade is a moral imperative. It is not. It is an act of pure cowardice.

Their failure to bring a formal impeachment vote to the House floor shows that this witch hunt has no legitimacy whatsoever, and they know it. They are using it as a punch line.

This informal inquiry is being conducted in secret behind closed doors and betrays the true intention of what they are trying to do to our good President, to conduct an endless, shallow campaign of half-truths and manipulated facts against President Trump.

I have called on my fellow Members of this House to denounce the unconstitutional farce that they are doing and support my resolution to expel the Speaker and vacate the chair.

It is time to end this charade and get back to doing the people's business. We can certainly start by passing the USMCA.

STOP IMPEACHMENT SHAM

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

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, this impeachment sham needs to stop. We all know what this is really about: overturning the results of the 2016 election.

From the outset, Speaker PELOSI and Chairman SCHIFF have conducted this inquiry behind closed doors, out of sight of the American people and us, without a vote to authorize it.

They have ignored due process, completely disregarded precedent, and made it clear that politics and partisanship are more important than fairness and transparency.

They denied our side of the aisle the right to subpoena evidence. They have excluded the President's legal team from participating in hearings, cross-examining witnesses, or presenting evidence. This body, quite simply, has been turned into a kangaroo court fixated on unseating the President at any cost.

Our Constitution, our basic, fundamental principles of fairness, and the millions of Americans who made their voices heard in the 2016 election are being snubbed.

Madam Speaker, it is time to stop this sham.

DEMOCRATS CHOOSE PARTISAN HATRED OF PRESIDENT TRUMP

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

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to demand fairness and transparency from this outrageous impeachment inquiry.

Democrats have been grasping at straws and looking for any excuse to impeach President Trump. We haven't even held a vote to open an impeachment inquiry, but Speaker PELOSI and

ADAM SCHIFF are charging ahead with a secretive kangaroo court behind closed doors. This is an illegitimate, unfair hearing with no due process and no charges made.

ADAM SCHIFF has refused to release to the public any of the transcripts and even refuses to let Members of Congress into the hearings to hear them.

Their goal has been impeachment since the 2016 election, and they will use any means to get there. This is the only thing the House is doing, instead of focusing on the issues that are important to hardworking Americans across this Nation.

I hope the American people will see this evil abuse of power for what it is—the Democrats' decision to choose partisan hatred of President Trump over the welfare of this great Nation.

MEMBERS ALIENATED FROM IMPEACHMENT PROCESS

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

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I am in my fifth year in this esteemed body, but I have never in my 5 years been subjected to being alienated from one of the most important duties that people in this House are given the responsibility for.

There is no issue greater than impeachment, other than just declaring war. But, yet, I have been alienated from the process.

Now, when Speaker PELOSI decided that she was going to start somewhat of an inquiry, I was told, being on the Financial Services Committee, I will be one of the committees involved in it.

But then, apparently, the rules changed, and we shifted it to two other committees. And those committees, when they were having their hearings in front of the American people, apparently, that didn't go to their pleasing because the testimonies didn't meet their narrative, so they moved it into a secret area.

Since then, I have been trying to get ahold of the transcripts of the hearings that I have been alienated from.

I actually got one today. After a week of looking for Volker's testimony and asking for others, I finally got one today of Ambassador Taylor, from The Washington Post. It appears that we are leaking what we want to leak.

MAKE IMPEACHMENT PROCESS TRANSPARENT

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose the lack of transparency by Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats' impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump, our duly elected President.

Instead of following precedent and putting the Judiciary Committee in

charge of this process, Speaker PELOSI has empowered the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence chairman, ADAM SCHIFF, to run this effort behind closed doors in secret, with no accountability, and he is handpicking what information to leak.

What happened to Chairman NADLER over in the Judiciary Committee? If Democrats truly believe that this is the right thing to do, why don't they hold a vote? The Democrats' complete disregard for following a fair process is alarming, and quite frankly, it is un-American.

They are misleading the American people while ignoring action on the pressing issues at hand. The truth is, they have only one goal, and that is to undermine President Trump and ensure he cannot do what he was elected to do, like passing the USMCA, immigration reform, modernizing healthcare, and securing our border.

Let's end this nonsense and get to work on issues that matter to the American people.

COUNTRY SHOULD SEE IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

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

Mr. WATKINS. Madam Speaker, today, I was in these official closed-door impeachment investigations. I use the word "official" loosely since the grounds upon which the Democrats are acting are shaky, at best.

Access is being limited. I am a member of one of these committees that is allowed to be in there, but as I look around and see no more than perhaps a dozen or so Republicans, I think to myself that the entire country should see what the Democrats are up to, the entire world should.

Soon that will happen because although I don't know what I am even allowed to share, because I don't understand these official formalities, I do know that I will tell the world everything that I can, and the truth will come out with time.

It is not what is best for our constituency. We ought to be passing the USMCA. We ought to be ensuring our borders are safe. We ought to be fighting against surprise billing and exorbitant healthcare costs.

IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY SHAMES HOUSE

(Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I am speaking tonight on behalf of the people I represent in the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee.

In Tennessee, I hear excitement about the leaps forward our country has made under the leadership of our

President, Donald Trump. We are enjoying the lowest unemployment rate of my lifetime, and more Americans are employed than at any point in this Nation's history.

In the short time that I have in this, my first elected office, I have seen the great race in Washington that goes on daily. It is a race to take credit for anything positive, to run away from anything negative, and an all-out sprint away from the real problems facing our Nation.

Well, in the race to the ridiculous, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have clearly won. A closed-door, secretive, biased, so-called inquiry is shaming this House and not doing the first positive thing for the people back home.

Drop the political charades, Madam Speaker, and let this House go forward.

STOP SHAM ATTACK ON OUR DEMOCRACY

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, House Democrats and the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee seem to think that impeachment is nothing but a game. If you can't beat him, cheat him.

On September 26, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee fabricated and read on the record during a committee hearing a fake call transcript between the President of the United States and a foreign leader, while keeping the actual transcript of the call in a vault.

Now, he continues to conduct an impeachment inquiry against the President in complete secrecy with no vote of the House of Representatives, leaving the American people and most Members of this body in complete darkness.

What we have here is that good old case of a game created by illusion. If you can't beat him, cheat him, and game show host Chairman ADAM SCHIFF is at the lead.

Behind door number one, we had the Mueller investigation, which found there was no collusion between the President's campaign and Russia.

Behind door number two was the call between President Trump and Ukrainian President Zelensky. Again, the transcript released by the White House shows no quid pro quo, which stemmed from a whistleblower complaint Chairman SCHIFF orchestrated with in advance and advised the whistleblower how to proceed.

What is behind door number three? Nobody knows. But this sham attack on our democracy must be stopped.

DUE PROCESS CRITICAL TO IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

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